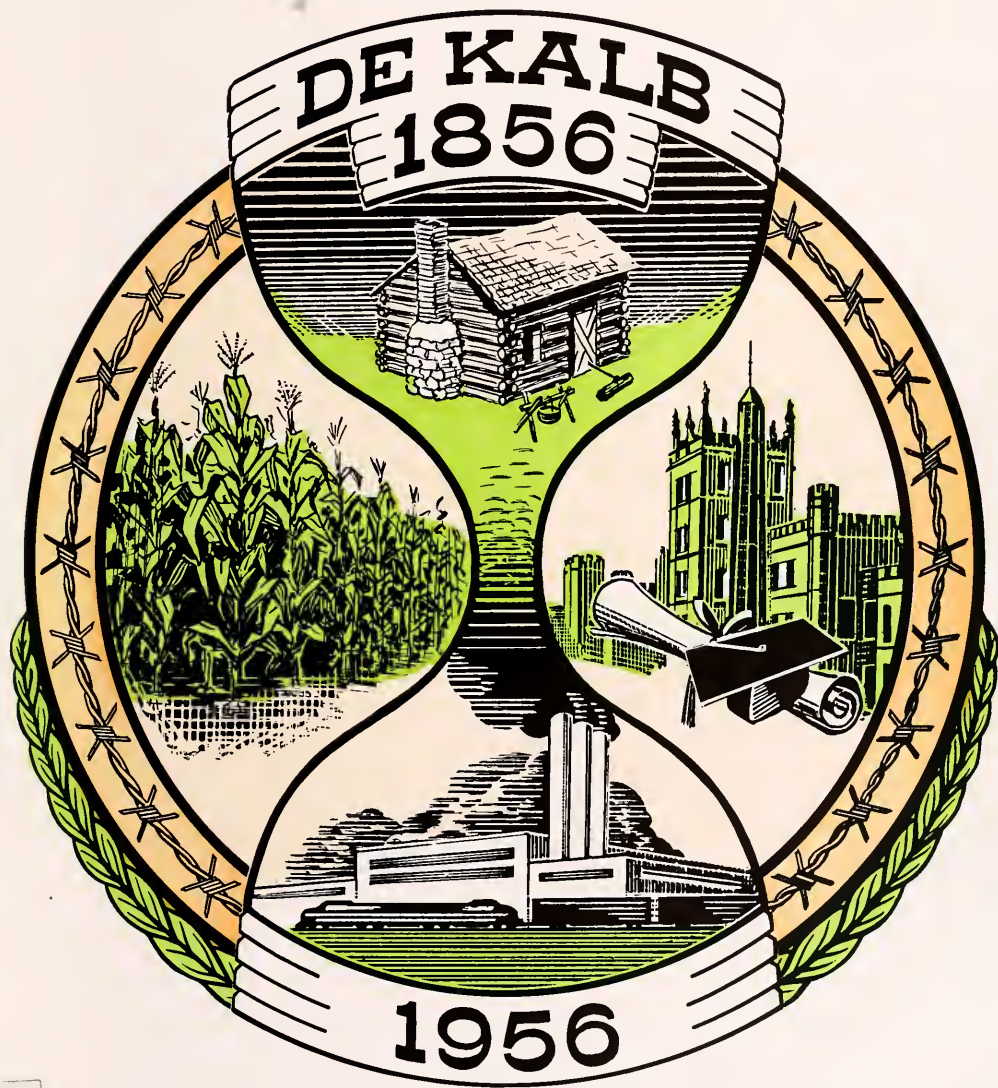


CENTENNIAL

DE KALB, ILLINOIS

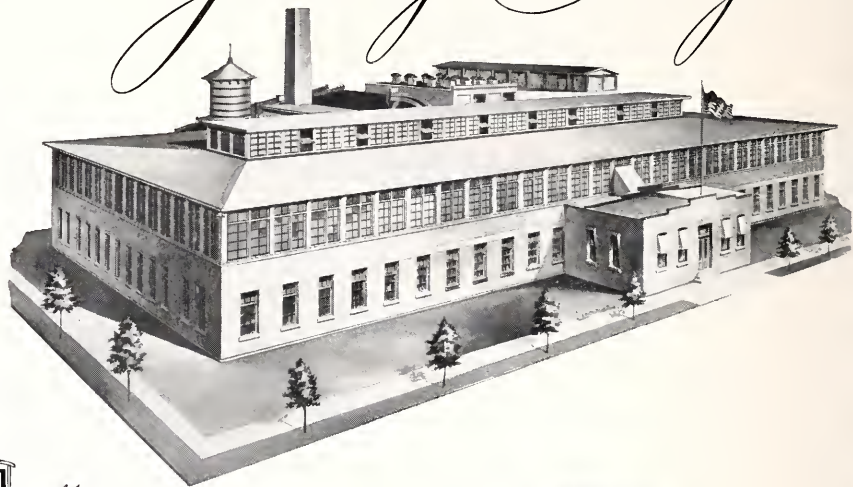


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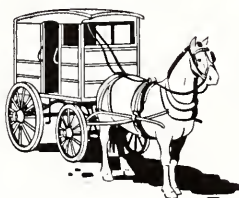
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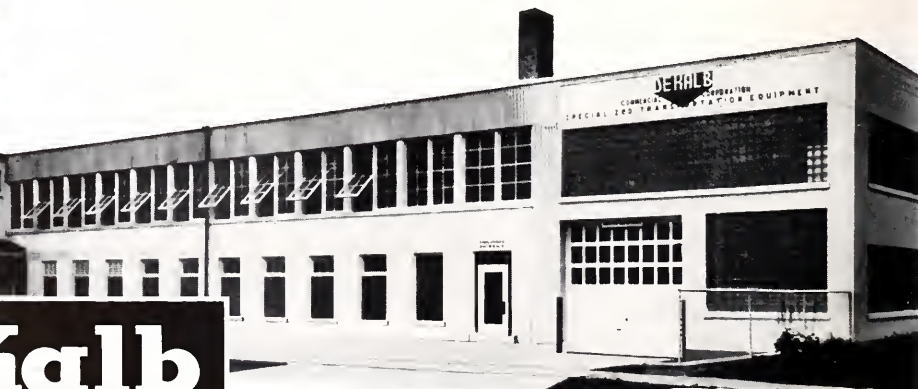


OF 1904 . . . TO THE



OF TODAY

As far back as 1912 DEKALB achieved national recognition as the trademark for fine quality milk wagons. It was in 1912 that the DEKALB Wagon Company developed the step-up quick delivery cart. It eliminated the precarious hub jumping to a high perched seat for drivers with a drop-center delivery wagon, some of which are still in use in the dairy industry. From the drop-center wagon DEKALB went to the drop-frame truck with "stand-drive" controls. Through the years DEKALB research and design has been responsible for other advancements; including "jig-built" construction, plastic bodies and the new "Lumberjack" retail lumber delivery unit. Today, in nearly every field of endeavor involving commercial transportation you find evidence of DEKALB workmanship and support for the slogan . . . "America's Finest Products Are Delivered in America's Finest Bodies . . . DEKALB!"



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With Deep Appreciation

Three factors have made the DeKalb Centennial an undertaking of considerable size and extreme importance. The first was our desire to give respectful and fitting tribute to the pioneers of the past and the senior citizens of today who, through their foresight, industry, and civic pride, have made DeKalb what it is today.

The need for a civic celebration of such broad scope that it would encompass our fellow citizens from all walks of life was also recognized. That the DeKalb Centennial has enjoyed greater and more enthusiastic participation than any previous event in city history is indeed gratifying.

Notwithstanding the importance of the first two factors, however, we must necessarily look ahead and conclude that it is the setting of a progressive, more active, and more service-minded pattern for the future that is the element which gives our participation its reason for being.

Our past duly honored, our present merrily celebrated, and our future course of civic responsibility firmly set, we pause to express our deep appreciation for the unsurpassed cooperation, hard work, financial support, and loyalty to DeKalb which has guided the actions of all those whose lives the DeKalb Centennial has touched.

THE DE KALB CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

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DeKalb's Centennial

1856 - 1956

By Georgia Anna Kuecks

A haven from the endless, swampy plains
Was built by God with river and with trees,
And men who ventured onward to the west
At this oasis paused; and in their ease
Marvelled, as slowly the spell
Of destiny engulfed them.

On such a blessed spot some were to stay
And thrive; God meant it so.
They felt His power enabling them to prove
Their might exceeding that of every foe.
Indians, loneliness and ills
Failed to dishearten them.

Their tiny village boasted soon a spire
Pointing to God, whose blessings all acclaimed;
While at the village school their children learned
What must be learned by humble men and famed.
Here the nucleus appeared
Portentous of greatness.

Thus, through a hundred years the steady growth
Of what is now DeKalb in Illinois
Progressed; offering to all its plenitude
Of education, business, homes and civic poise;
And girdled by thriving farms
Whose people share its blessings.

DeKalb, a city, proudly celebrates
Its hundredth birthday. Every native son
Is summoned to share the pageantry
Depicting growth augmented by each one.
As joyously we celebrate, we too
Most humbly thank our God.



BARON DE KALB.

The Baron de Kalb

Courtesy of Chicago Historical Society

Our Town

DeKalb is named for Baron Johann DeKalb who was born in Germany and served in the German and French army. He was an adventurer and shifted his allegiance from one country to another always seeking higher rank. He was always interested in military affairs and soon rose to a general's rank in the French army.

He came to the colonies to support George Washington and the colonial cause, and became a major general in the army of the revolution. He was second in command at the battle of Camden, fought on August 16, 1780, and at that battle he was wounded severely while protecting the retreat of the main army. He was taken prisoner by the British and died August 19, 1780.

When this settlement was made, it was first called Huntley's Grove; the first official name was DeKalb Center after the Post Office.

The town itself takes its name from the County, which was formed in 1837. The county was named in the legislative enactment organ-

izing the County along with Boone County and Stephenson County, and while those latter two names were specifically mentioned and the reasons given for their selection, there was no reason given for the selection of the name DeKalb for this area.

Early Settlers

The first settlers came to this area in Northern Illinois following the Blackhawk War of 1832 which erased forever the Indian menace to this area. They came straggling in at first but as the settlement of Chicago grew and the pressure on the East increased, they soon streamed in here in increasing numbers.

Their main interest in the area was the timberland. The timber held for them their building materials, their food and their fuel. They did not have any interest in the prairie, which to them was useless. They were not primarily farmers — they were settlers.

When they arrived, they found that the timber, or woodlands, followed the rivers. This was particularly true in the area near DeKalb, and in the northwestern part of DeKalb County where the timber followed the Kishwaukee River. It is said that there were no trees between the south end of Huntley's Grove, which is DeKalb, and Pritchard's Grove ten miles south, which is now Waterman.

It was the intention of the early settlers to build mills and to lay out towns and to reap the financial benefits therefrom. They found the timber all right, but when they came to build their mills on the Kishwaukee River they found that even then the water was too low and the stream was too unreliable to make milling a profitable venture. In fact, one of the early accounts of DeKalb Township speaks of a town which was laid out north of DeKalb about the vicinity of what we call the Nelson farm today, but that was given up due to the failure of the Kishwaukee to supply power enough to turn the mill wheels of the proposed mill at that point.

It was Russell Huntley, who came and settled in the timber further south, that really started this town of DeKalb. Russell Huntley can be rightly called the Father of DeKalb; in fact, the south end of the grove in which he settled in those early days soon became known as Huntley's Grove and you will find it referred to by that name in several of the histories.

Huntley came from Vermont. He was representing Eastern capitalists who wanted to buy timber and build a mill, and some people say it was his prime intention to lay out a town.

Huntley's first venture in this area of Huntley's Grove, was the building of a hotel, or as it was called in those days — a tavern. This tavern was located on the northwest corner of what is now First and Lincoln Highway, or the site of the Elks' Club. It is very fitting that the Centennial Building, the offices of the DeKalb Centennial, has been built almost upon the spot where the Russell Huntley Tavern was built in 1838.

This tavern was patronized by the teamsters who were hauling grain from Dixon's Ferry, which is now Dixon, Illinois, to Chicago. If you will note on the map, DeKalb is just about half way between Chicago and Dixon.

Huntley Hotel, or Tavern, was described as a double log house. It probably was not very commodious, and the teamsters being quite numerous, there was necessity for some of them at times to sleep in the stable. There must have been some fear of profiteering in those days as the newly formed DeKalb County, through its commissioners, set the rates which Russell Huntley and others could charge for meals and lodging in their hotels or taverns. These rates look peculiar to us today. For example, thirty-one cents for lodging for one night for a man; twelve and one-half cents for meals; and twelve and one-half cents for hay for a horse over night, and seventy-five cents per bushel for oats was all he could charge.

Huntley sold his hotel in 1846 and immediately built a newer one which he called the Eagle Hotel on the corner of Second and Lincoln Highway, the site of which is now occupied by the First National Bank. This hotel was in three parts, according to the descriptions left to us; the west wing, was a kitchen; the east wing was a bar room, and the center part contained a dining room and two bedrooms. There were two bedrooms on the second floor, but again the accommodations were not adequate for the teamsters, and it is said that many of them at times had to sleep in the stable nearby.

The Eagle Hotel stood on this site for a good many years, and in the late years of the 19th century was moved. Part of the Hotel is still in existence as part of the Arlington Hotel on East Lincoln Highway just east of Fourth Street in DeKalb today.

As the settlement grew around Huntley's Tavern and the Eagle Hotel, Russell Huntley took steps to purchase from the United States Government the land on which his settlement stood. On April 9, 1844, he purchased eighty acres of land. Four days later, April 13, 1844, Steven S. Jones purchased eighty acres immediately to the East of the Huntley purchase. Then, on April 30, 1846, a little over two years later, Russell Huntley purchased from Jones his eighty acres, making Huntley the owner of one hundred sixty acres, or a greater share of the land on which DeKalb stands today.

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Indians

The Indians in this area were the Pottowatomies, and the most famous and influential of them, Shabbona, who was an Ottawa chief by birth and a Pottowatomie chief by marriage, wielded a great influence among the various tribes.

He became convinced that the Indians could not stop the onrush of the whites and did all in his power to protect them. During the Blackhawk War of 1832, Shabbona made two midnight rides to warn settlers of impending danger. Afterwards he was given a grove for his services.

The grove was lost to him by a misunderstanding but is today one of DeKalb County's forest preserves. In his journeys from his home to Lake Geneva, he took a trail which crossed the campus of Northern Illinois State College. This trail is marked by bent trees, some of which are still standing.

Organization Of The Village

The village of DeKalb was organized in 1856 as a village under the general act of the legislature of the State of Illinois. No specific date for this action has been determined, although the records at Springfield and at Sycamore have been searched carefully. It is this particular act of the people of this community that we are celebrating today — the Centennial — of the incorporation of the community as a village.

The incorporation charter of the village of DeKalb was amended by specific acts of the Legislature in 1861 when it was changed slightly to permit the president of the board of trustees to be a member of the county board of supervisors, and then in 1868 when other changes were made in the corporation of the town charter.

The town continued to operate under a village form of government until February, 1877, when, by a vote of the people it became a city.



First Picture of Main Street DeKalb - 1860



East Plant of The American Steel and Wire Company

Barbed Wire

When the settlers came to northern Illinois they found that the fencing material which they were accustomed to use was not to be had. No stone was available and, although obtainable, timber for wooden fences was hard to manufacture. The smooth wire in use was not satisfactory as it was apt to break in cold weather and, too, it would not turn stock.

Several attempts were made to produce a fence with thorns to deter the stock, but none proved practical. Jacob Haish at one time conceived the notion of weaving Osage Orange branches in wood and wire fences in an effort to turn the stock. At one time he even sold Osage seed for \$5.00 per pound. His project was not satisfactory and was dropped.

I. L. Ellwood once told that he and Joseph Glidden became interested in the idea of inventing a barbed fence. While attending the DeKalb Agricultural Fair they noticed the exhibit of William Rose of Waterman. The display showed his patent consisting of a square

piece of wood studded with brads which could be hung on a wire or wood fence. The device was found effective, but not practical.

Mr. Glidden started to work on his plan for a barbed wire in the spring of 1873 in the front yard of his house on West Lincoln Highway. He took some short pieces of wire, twisted them around a smooth wire, and then twisted another wire to the first. In working on this invention he fastened the wires to a tree and used a grindstone for the twisting. For cutting the barbs he rigged up a coffee mill. In October, 1873, he applied for a patent, but it was not granted until November 24, 1874.

After Mr. Glidden's patent had been granted, Mr. Ellwood, who had also obtained a patent of his own, decided that Mr. Glidden's design was better than his and purchased for \$265.00 a half interest in the Glidden patent.

The two men formed the Barb Fence Com-



Early DeKalb Firsts

FIRST WHITE SETTLERS in the spring of 1835: John B. Codins and Norman C. Moore.

FIRST HOTEL built in February 1837 by Russell Huntley (which structure also housed the first postoffice).

FIRST TOWNSHIP SCHOOL held in 1838 in a Coltonville loghouse.

FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE built in 1850: First teacher, Jonathan Stone.

FIRST CHURCH SOCIETY (the Baptist) in 1842.

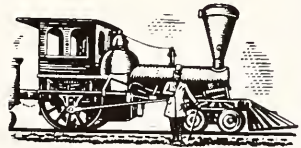
FIRST MARRIAGE: J. M. Goodell to Caroline F. Bathrick.

FIRST BLACKSMITH SHOP built by Abial Richardson.

FIRST JUSTICE OF THE PEACE: C. Morey, elected in 1853.

FIRST RAILROAD: The Chicago & North Western
in 1853.

FIRST GRIST MILL in 1853: run by a man named
Brooks.



FIRST LUMBERYARD in 1854 started by Walker Bent.

FIRST WAREHOUSE in 1854 belonging to Butts & Richardson.

FIRST WAGON & REPAIR SHOP in 1855 owned by Smith D. Baldwin.

FIRST DRUGSTORE in 1850 by Dr. Basil Rudy.

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Progressive DeKalb City Administrations of the past 100 years are responsible for the many municipal services today's citizens enjoy. We are all indebted to these many civic minded pioneers. As we look about our city, we see their works and have come to appreciate their good judgment.

And now, because of the foresight of these men, DeKalb has paved streets, adequate water supply, sewage disposal system, fine street lighting, fire protection, police protection, public library, municipal hospital, city parks and playgrounds and many other public services.

*So, on this Centennial year, we pay tribute
to the early builders of our city.*

ALL DEPARTMENTS OF DE KALB CITY ADMINISTRATION



West Mill (Red Shops) American Steel and Wire Company, from Sixth Street

pany and made a few rods in the Glidden barn during the winter of 1875-76. The next spring they moved into a small building on Main Street, now the site of the Elsa Gift Shop, where they started to manufacture wire on a larger scale.

The method followed was unique and crude. Two workmen would climb the windmill tower standing on the northeast corner of Second and Main (Lincoln Highway) with one end of a long greased wire and a pail of barbs. The other end of the wire extended into the factory. They would slide the barbs down this greased wire and clamped them on by hand in the factory. Then a second wire would be twisted on to the first by horse power. One hundred pounds of wire per day was good production.

The next winter they built a factory on Second Street across from the City Hall, and with machines designed and built by blacksmith Phin Vaughan, the output reached seven tons per day.

Jacob Haish, in the meantime, was working in his carpenter's shop on East Main (Lincoln Highway). Here he developed his "S" barb

and began production by using machines developed by himself. As early as 1873 he was shipping wire to the Pacific Coast.

The demand for wire from DeKalb caused Mr. Charles Washburne, of the firm of Washburne and Moen in Worcester, Massachusetts, to visit DeKalb. He first visited Mr. Haish, who offered to sell for \$200,000. He later said he expected Mr. Washburne to make a counter offer.

Later Washburne called on Glidden and Ellwood and purchased the Glidden patent for \$60,000 and a royalty of 25 cents per 100 pounds of wire.

Washburne and Moen and Ellwood formed the I. L. Ellwood manufacturing Company and began to purchase all of the basic barb wire patents. They could not buy Mr. Haish's and sued him and six others for patent infringement. The District Court for Northern Illinois decided the case in favor of the Glidden-Ellwood interests on December 15, 1880.

This litigation was settled on a basis of Mr. Haish's paying the Ellwood Company 75 cents

per 100 pounds of barbed wire he had made and the Ellwood Company's paying him the same for the use of the Haish patented machines.

The Ellwood Company built the Red Shops on the northeast corner of Fourth and Locust Streets and a new company, the Superior Barbed Wire Company, occupied the old Second Street building. Later they built a wire drawing plant on Tenth Street.

On March 18, 1898, I. L. Ellwood, John W. Gates, and others formed the American Steel and Wire Company. The two plants in DeKalb were a part of the company and later it acquired two more plants.

Barbed wire and kindred steel products were made in DeKalb until May, 1938, when the American Steel and Wire Company moved to Joliet and Waukegan.

Marsh Harvester

Another agricultural invention to come out of DeKalb was the Marsh Harvester. This was the work of two brothers, C. W. and W. W. Marsh.

While working with a Mann Reaper they noticed how the gavels of grain fell into the box to be bound, but as they fell off the reaper they scattered.

About 1858 these two men with the help of a local machinist tore apart a Mann Reaper, added parts from a scrap pile and put into the field the first harvester. After a year of trial they began manufacturing this machine in Sycamore and Plano and found the results good. They soon started to work on improvements and developed an automatic knotter for the sheaves.

Due to faulty materials used by suppliers they had manufacturing difficulties and when they lost a court decision on the patent they discontinued their work.

Before they left the field, C. W. Marsh had demonstrated his machine in several European countries.

C. W. Marsh's home was the building now used as a nurses home by the DeKalb County Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Here he indulged in his liking for animals and gathered together several wild animals in the park surrounding the home. Among these was a herd of deer which was well known in Northern Illinois.

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Aerial View of N. I. S. C.

Northern Illinois State College

It was 1892, the year that Edgar Duryea made the first American automobile, and a novel idea was forming itself in the mind of Clinton Rosette. This strong-minded man, the outspoken editor of the Democratic DeKalb Daily Chronicle, had used his influence to secure the election of John P. Altgeld as governor of Illinois, and Altgeld had asked what position he might offer Rosette in return. The editor's first reply was that he already had a job — but then he thought of his idea: why should northern Illinois not have a state normal school comparable to those at Normal in the central part of the state, and at Carbondale in southern Illinois? And so Rosette requested that

he be appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Normal Schools of Illinois in order to promote the establishment of a college for teachers at DeKalb.

Shrewdly joining forces with Isaac L. Ellwood, the local Republican leader in DeKalb, and other prominent citizens, Rosette led in the drafting of a bill which asked the state legislature to appropriate \$100,000 for a building and to appoint a board of trustees of five members. As for the location of the school, the bill left little to chance: "... said school is to be located as near as may be midway between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river east and west, and as near as may be half-way between the Wisconsin line and the Rock Island Railway." DeKalb was neatly pinpointed!

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Clinton Rosette, founder of Northern Illinois State College

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Rosette's bill, sponsored by State Senator D. D. Hunt of DeKalb, immediately ran into competition with a similar bill being advanced by a group in the eastern part of the state. After some maneuvering, both groups agreed to support each other, and both bills were passed. The \$100,000, however, was divided between the two schools. This did not provide enough for buildings and equipment for either school, even at "gay nineties" prices; so it was decided to secure sites and plans and then, two years later, ask for enough money for both plants. As a result, both schools were fully financed by the legislature in 1895.

By now several cities in northern Illinois were on the scent: Rockford, Freeport, Polo and Dixon all fancied themselves as centers of higher learning and presented their attractions to the state board. But Rosette and Ellwood very skillfully planned the tour of inspection which the board was requested to make. In the middle of a hot and dry week in August the board was taken to Rockford, where the

Rock River and beauties of the city were offered as attractions. Then came the turns of Freeport, Polo, and Dixon to make the most of their opportunity. Dixon's case was particularly strong, for their delegation offered to give the buildings and grounds of a private normal school without cost to the state if the new school were located there.

By the time these inspections were made, Friday night had come. Because of the heat, Ellwood suggested that the board rest over the weekend and resume the inspection in DeKalb on the following Monday. That night a heavy rain broke the hot spell, filled the Kishwaukee to overflowing, and made a beautiful lake of the swampy segment of the proposed site. The visiting board was delighted with what they found, particularly when they heard the terms of DeKalb's offer.

About seventy acres at the northwest edge of town were to be donated by Joseph Glidden. As additional inducements the city of DeKalb promised to pave the main street (now West Lincoln Highway) as far as the south entrance of the campus. The city schools were offered as facilities for practice teaching, in keeping with the plan for training teachers which Dr. John W. Cook advocated. Cook, then president of the State Normal University of Normal, Illinois, had indicated that he would accept the presidency of the new school. Another DeKalb leader, Jacob Haish, promised to give \$10,000 for a library for the school, and Ellwood promised \$30,000 in cash.

Nothing further was needed. The board agreed to locate the new school in DeKalb.

At the laying of the corner stone of the new building on October 1, 1895, Governor Altgeld was the principal speaker; music was furnished by the famous Pullman Military Band, the Schumann Ladies Quartet, and the DeKalb Choral Society; and the Grand Lodge of the Order of Free and Accepted Masons, in session in Chicago, adjourned and came out by special train to see that the stone was duly set.

The first session of the Northern Illinois State Normal School opened on September 12, 1899, when 139 students and 16 faculty members met at 8:00 a.m. in the study hall (now the student lounge) for opening exercises. Classes were conducted in the building in spite of the hammering and the noise of workmen polishing the mosaic corridor floors. Sidewalks leading to the building on what is now College Avenue, consisted of wooden planks laid end to end, and students crossed the "Kish" on a plank footbridge with wooden handrails.

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The City of DeKalb celebrated the opening of its new school with a huge dedication ceremony known as the Crimson Days. From September 21st through the 23rd thousands of people from all parts of northern Illinois braved torrents of rain to flock to DeKalb for the festival parades, balls and dances, street carnivals, and speech making. Appropriately, the daughter of Mr. Ellwood, Mrs. Jessie Ellwood Ray (now Mrs. Sherman G. Bonney of DeKalb) was chosen Queen of Crimson Days. Again the governor, this time John R. Tanner, honored DeKalb with his presence, as did such other notables as President Draper of the University of Illinois, Superintendent Bright of Cook County, Charles E. Brush and W. J. McAlpine (architects and contractor, respectively), and the Board of Trustees.

Northern Illinois State College in its more than half century of service to state and country has known a variety of titles. The somewhat unwieldy name of the early years, Northern Illinois State Normal School, gave way in 1921 to the equally long but more up-to-date title of Northern Illinois State Teachers College, and finally, in July 1955, to Northern Illinois State College. Since 1921 two-year and four-year curricula have been offered to prepare teachers for elementary and high school teaching. The awarding of a diploma for completion of the two-year curriculum was discontinued in 1943. Graduates of the four-year program now receive the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education, Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts, depending on the curriculum followed. Since 1952 the college has also awarded the degree of Master of Science in Education.

The early years of Northern present a record of slow but continuous expansion. On the fifth anniversary of its founding there were nearly 300 men and women enrolled, on the tenth anniversary nearly 500. The years of World War I brought a decrease of over fifty percent in student enrollment, but the number climbed steadily again after the war, and ranged close to the 700 mark until 1938, when Northern found over 900 students crowding its campus. After the decrease during the years of World War II, Northern's enrollment again began a steady rise that has taken it from 1442 in 1946 to 3203 for the spring semester of 1956. There has been a corresponding increase in faculty, of course; 30 in 1906, 54 in 1916, 82 in 1946, and 212 this Centennial year! If the annual increase continues to be about 400 (the average increase for the last four years), Northern's enrollment for 1960 will be 5360 — and it may well be considerably more.

And so Northern looks to the future. Five buildings sufficed the college until 1940; nine

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DE KALB, ILLINOIS**

have been built since that time, three of them since 1952. But this is only a beginning. Three new campuses have been developed to accommodate the growing needs of the college; North Campus (acquired subsequent to 1946) comprises 100 acres north of Lucinda Avenue and east of Garden Road and provided facilities for golfing and other recreational and athletic activities. West Campus, a tract lying one block west of the main campus, was acquired by the college in 1949 and extended in the spring of the present year by the purchase of 131 acres west of Annie Glidden Road. And the Lorado Taft Field Campus, situated in the hilly and heavily-wooded area along the Rock River near the city of Oregon (some thirty-five miles west of DeKalb), was acquired in 1951 as a center for outdoor education. Soon a new classroom building will join Neptune Hall, the first building on the West Campus; and this year may see the completion of work on another West-Campus building, a new field house to seat 5000 Huskie fans. Many additional units are projected for the years immediately ahead — a new laboratory school, new classroom buildings, dormitories, faculty housing units, a Student Union, a health center, and a central power plant, as well as additions to existing buildings.

The faculty and administration of Northern Illinois State College view the coming period of rapid nationwide educational expansion and the next century of DeKalb history as an opportunity to give further — and better — educational service to the people of the State of Illinois.



East School located at Lincoln Highway and 11th Street
in 1899



ELKS LODGE

Has Grown With DeKalb

SINCE 1902

Chartered August 14, 1902

Membership 33

On August 14, 1955

Membership 814

• • •

Since 1902 This Lodge—

its principles and teachings, through its members of all walks of life, has held an active part in the development and betterment of this community.

We pledge a never ceasing, driving fight to combat any force which seeks to subvert our—"American Way."

GROWING THROUGH THE CENTURY WITH DE KALB

MUSIC AND DANCING NIGHTLY

LUNCH and DINNER SERVED DAILY DURING CENTENNIAL

• • •

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No. 765

Justice

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Brotherly Love

Fidelity

One Hundred Years In DeKalb Schools

When the little village of DeKalb in Orange township was founded, and the settlers had time to think of other things than the bare necessities of life, the need of a schoolhouse became imperative. The first building was not an elaborate structure. It was built of logs and roofed with "shakes" (boards from two to three feet long and about a half-inch thick); it had no floor and no windows — simply openings made in the sides; consequently, when it became cold enough to need a fire, school was discontinued until it became warm again. There were only three or four desks, placed in front for the pupils who took writing. The seats were made of logs, sawed lengthwise down the middle, leaving one flat side; on the other side holes were bored and legs inserted. They could thus accommodate fifteen or twenty pupils. This schoolhouse was on First Street, about half-way between Gurler Street and the railroad tracks (the railroad came later).

Soon the need of a better building was felt, and about 1850 another school-house was erected on Franklin Street, between First and Second. Here Jonathan Stone taught a term of school at a salary of \$16 per month, teaching alternately five and six days a week. The salary of the teacher was raised by subscription. Thus began the educational history of DeKalb.

As soon as the village was platted (1853), steps were taken for the erection of a better building. A small tax was levied and the school was built on the site of the old Congregational Church, on the corner of Grove and Second Streets. As there was not enough money raised by this taxation to complete the structure, a couple of dances were given to secure the remainder of the sum needed. Timothy J. Lyon was the first teacher here.

As the village increased in numbers, this building soon became too small; so in 1855 another school was erected across the street from the Catholic church. It was here that the grade which corresponds most nearly with our present high school was formed. This was called the Seminary.

By the end of four years, this building had also become too small to accommodate the large number of pupils, and it was therefore sold and moved back from the corner to the middle of the block, where it was made into a dwelling.

In 1861 a brick building was built at the corner of Third and Prospect Streets. For many years this was the finest common school

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On Your Centennial!**



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DE KALB, ILLINOIS

building of any town of its size in the state. At first the third story was not finished, as there was no need for it.

The first principal at this building was C. Warner. After him came M. Andrews, J. A. Mabie, E. L. Wells, T. W. Dodge, and A. Wells, each of whom taught a year, with the exception of the last two. Then followed Curtis and Crandall, the latter remaining three years.

Under Miss Ella L. Dunbar the High School reached a higher standard of excellence than it ever had before or for many years afterwards. Miss Dunbar was energetic, progressive and very capable of filling her position. She maintained a strict discipline, taking charge of the children from the time they left their homes until they returned. She was the first principal who ever attempted to have a graduating class; she took charge of the schools in 1870, and in 1874 she graduated a class of four.

In 1874 a new North Side grade school was built. The building is now occupied by the DeKalb Agricultural Association.

In 1888 John T. Bowles became superintendent and under him many improvements were instituted.

Miss Lucy H. Carson was the first regular High School principal, and through her efforts and those of Mr. Bowles, the High School was placed upon the accredited lists of the University of Illinois and of Southern Illinois Normal School. The courses were steadily increasing in number, and in 1894 an addition was built to the South Side school building, and a new East Side school was built.

Mr. Bowles was the first one to have music systematically taught in the schools.

In 1896 H. F. Derr was made superintendent of schools. He instituted the half year promotions and the four-year course in the High School. The High School principals during this time were Joseph Grey, S. F. Parson, and Miss Martha L. Pond.

The year 1899 ushered in the best and most prosperous period in the existence of the High School. Newell D. Gilbert became superintendent of schools and Charles Everett Skinner principal of the High School. Under their direction the High School advanced until it was in 1902 upon the accredited lists of five universities with liberal courses of study and boast-



North School, North Fifth Street, in 1897

ed a corps of nine teachers and a roll of two hundred students.

It was in January 1902, that the South Side School was destroyed by fire. Following the fire, high school classes were conducted in the Northern Illinois State Normal.

In 1903, a board of six members and a faculty of ten started work in the new DeKalb Township high school building, which had cost \$50,000.

In 1903-1904, bonds for \$30,000 each were voted for two new grade schools later named Glidden and Haish after DeKalb's two illustrious citizens.

In 1908-1909, another \$30,000 was voted for the erection of Ellwood School.

In 1909, the first caps and gowns were purchased for a high school graduating class of 46 members.

When 1911 came along, a new superintendent of city schools, Luther Hatch, had to be hired. Later city school superintendents included F. R. Ritzman and Frank Phillips.

In 1913, St. Mary's Grade School was built.

C. W. Whitten took over the principal's job of the high school in 1916, and one of his main projects was in the music department, where

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CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE
CITY OF DE KALB
ON ITS
100th BIRTHDAY



CANTEEN SERVICE

music appreciation was first taught.

With World War I coming up in 1917, the call to service came to a number of the high school students. During the years 1917-1918, 111 alumni and students were listed on the service men's honor roll.

A new principal, R. G. Beals, came to DeKalb in 1922, replacing C. W. Whitten, who became head of the Illinois High School Association.

Members of the present staff working at the high school in 1924, were principal Mr. E. O. Hoppe, Miss Edith Wentworth, and Mr. Paul Furr.

Other current teachers, Miss Gertrude Ady, and Mr. Merlin Raddatz arrived in 1924-1925.

A \$265,000 addition was added to the high school in 1923. This included a swimming pool, athletic quarters for both girls and boys, wood-working shop, auditorium, homemaking quarters, art studio, cafeteria, business department, business offices, a library — now used as a social room, projection room, and a little theater — and additional classrooms.

Student teachers first arrived at DTHS from Northern Illinois State Teachers College in 1937, and are still coming in each semester for their practice teaching.

World War II brought changes in the DeKalb school system, such as the drafting of several teachers, and War Bond Sales which became a regularly scheduled activity. Forty alumni or students gave their lives for their country. One thousand forty-six served their country.

In 1943 Superintendent S. B. Sullivan took over the job previously occupied by R. G. Beals.

In 1948, Margaret Wiltberger, secretary to the superintendent of the grade schools retired after over 40 years of service in the DeKalb School System. Since then a scholarship has been set up by the Business and Professional Women's Club of DeKalb in memory of Miss Wiltberger, who died less than a year after her retirement. The following year W. T. Emery, of the science department, retired after fifty years of teaching, 46 of which were spent in DeKalb. In 1950-51 all-purpose rooms were added to the two grade schools, Glidden and Ellwood.

From 1904 until July 1, 1954, the public school system was a dual system, with separate districts for elementary and high school pupils. As of that date, the districts were combined with the Coltonville, Love, and Cort-

(Continued on Page 22)

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As a Company and as part of this community, we welcome the opportunity to participate in DeKalb's Centennial. We are proud of the part we have played in the progress of this community.

In 1926, California Packing Corporation seeking increased vegetable canning facilities in the Middle West, built the DeKalb plant and their products became part of the "Del Monte" Line.

Since that time the Midwest Division of the California Packing Corporation has had a continued and steady growth. It is our hope and plan that this growth will continue into the future.

We acknowledge gratefully the splendid part which the people of this community have played and are playing in the "Del Monte" success story.

CALIFORNIA PACKING CORPORATION
MIDWEST DIVISION
DeKalb, Illinois



South School, Third and Prospect Sts., before the fire

land Districts to form Community Unit District No. 428.

The governing body of the school district is the Board of Education, an elected group of seven members, no more than five of whom may be elected from any incorporated village or town. Any legal voter of the school district may become a candidate for membership on the board upon filing with the secretary of the board a petition properly signed by fifty or more legal voters of the district. Two serve for one year, two for two years, and three serve for three years.

The actual administration of the school is carried on by a superintendent, a supervisor of instruction, and six principals, who are selected by the board, and who make recommendations to the board concerning personnel, curriculum, textbooks, budgets, student activities, and public relations activities.

The principal source of school revenue is the general property tax, which is supplemented by state aid payments, both in terms of flat grants to the district and in terms of some equalization. The tax rate is fixed by referendum under state statutes, and is based on the assessed valuation of the district served by the school. This valuation is approximately \$45,000,000 for District No. 428.

The Board of Education is required by law to adopt a budget and appropriation ordinance each year. This budget must be made available to the public in tentative form for at least a week before final action, and a public hearing must be held on it. This hearing is advisory only and the board is not bound by advice given by the public at the hearing.

The school plant at the present time con-

(Continued on Page 25)



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1878

Edison's Electric Lamp



1946

First Motor Built in
DeKalb



1956

Modern Appliance
Powered by DeKalb Motor

1856

CONGRATULATIONS DEKALB! General Electric salutes the City of DeKalb on its Centennial. DeKalb has proved its progressiveness in the past 100 years not only by past achievements, but by its plans for the future. Similarly, G.E. looks with pride upon its scientific and engineering accomplishments which have brightened lives and lightened labor.

1878

Seventy-eight years ago, Thomas A. Edison brought light to the first successful incandescent lamp. That same year, he established the first of the companies which later became the General Electric Company.

1946

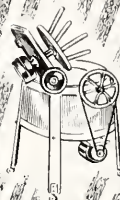
In 1946, ninety years after the City of DeKalb was founded, the DeKalb plant of General Electric, now designated the Appliance Motor Department, was opened. Since that time G.E. has been a part of the DeKalb Community, sharing in its responsibilities and rewards.

As we celebrate our milestones together, General Electric salutes the City of DeKalb and looks forward to a future of continued community growth and prosperity. May our association with DeKalb be one of long duration and may it be mutually rewarding.



1885

First Practical Motor

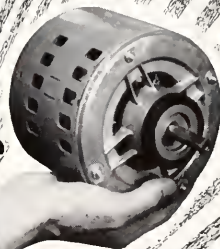


1911

Earle Motor-driven Washer

1956

DeKalb's Latest Motor



GENERAL  ELECTRIC

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Progress Is Our Most Important Product



THE CHARM SHOP



The Charm Shop opened in 1950 on North Third Street. Mrs. Collin bought out the interests of the Mari-Nell Dress Shop and completely remodeled the store, adding new lines of women's apparel.

In three short years, The Charm Shop had far outgrown this space and in 1953 moved to their present central location which had been vacated by Jukes Fashion Shop. Much expense and labor was spent to modernize and completely air condition the store to introduce DeKalb women to one of the loveliest stores in the entire area. Plans are now being made for further expansion to include a downstairs store in the near future.

223 East Lincoln Highway
In The Center of DeKalb



sists of seven buildings. The High School building was built in 1903. The Junior High was built in 1952, and the Carl Littlejohn School, a kindergarten through sixth grade building, in 1953. The three other buildings in the city of DeKalb, are Ellwood having been built in 1909, and Haish and Glidden in 1903. The Cortland School is a four room building built in 1935.

The school staff, in addition to the superintendent and building principals, consists of 49 elementary teachers, 15 teachers in the Junior High School, and 30 teachers in the High School. In addition to these there is a special art teacher and a special music teacher, two speech teachers, one driver training teacher, two guidance counsellors (who serve both the High School and the Junior High), and a curriculum director over all grades and high school.

During the school year 1953-54, the total enrollment in the various schools was 2,509.

The school system provides two ten week periods each year of education for adults in the community, one in the fall and one in the Winter. This activity is self supporting through the charge of a \$5 registration fee. No school credit is given for courses completed. The enrollment for 1953 was 426.

The Parochial School System of the Rockford Diocese of the Catholic Church maintains St. Mary's School in DeKalb. In this school the enrollment for the school year 1953-54 was about 300 students, from the first through eighth grade. Six teachers were employed. A tuition charge is made, based upon the number of children in the family, and additional support comes from contributions from the local parish. An addition of four rooms was built during the summer of 1954 to care for anticipated increases in enrollment.

Northern Illinois State College operates McMurry Laboratory School, an elementary school (four year kindergarten through eighth grade). The 1954 enrollment was 250. There are 10 full-time homeroom teachers, plus special teachers in art, music, physical education, industrial arts, home economics, as well as a counselor, librarian, and nurse. Thus approximately 14% of the children of the district are cared for by a state rather than a local appropriation.

1906 — FIFTY YEARS — 1956 OF SERVICE

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City Hall with first Fire Truck and Horse Drawn
Police Wagon - 1912

Fire Department

The start of DeKalb's fine fire department came in 1869 when a hook and ladder company was formed. The equipment, homemade by Blacksmith Phinas Vaughan, consisted of wooden buckets, three upright ladders, and one roof ladder. The "truck" was also made by Vaughan.

William H. Miller was captain of the department and he held this post for over 33 years until the new paid department was instituted.

In 1874 a volunteer hose company was organized and in 1884 additional equipment and men were added. It was on May 12, 1891, that Hose Company No. 2 was organized for the protection of the northeast part of town.

A forward step in fire protection was added in 1887 when the box alarm system was installed at a cost of \$195.28. When an alarm was turned in, the whistle on the waterworks in Huntley Park would sound and the engineer would come, determine the location and sound the box number by long and short blasts of the whistle. This practice was discontinued in 1916 because of the crowds which gathered at the fires.

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DeKalb Fire Station and equipment 1904 to 1912

On August 5, 1903, the city Council authorized a paid department and made arrangements for a station house. This department came into being February 4, 1904, with Hans Erickson, James Klock, Mike McEvoy and Charles Barr as DeKalb Fire Department No. 1. For equipment they had a combination chemical and hose wagon pulled by two horses. Later this was augmented by a ladder wagon made in DeKalb by Andrew Nelson.

Progress came into the picture on August 1, 1912, when a truck was put into service. The chemical wagon was sold to the town Iron River, Michigan.

This truck met an untimely end when it was struck by a passenger train at First Street on June 17, 1913. There were no casualties, but DeKalb's fire department was halved. However, the DeKalb Wagon Company lent the city

one of the trucks it was making, and it was used until December of that year.

In the succession of trucks used by the DeKalb department was one purchased from the DeKalb Wagon Company in 1916. It was a chain drive with a Continental Motor and represented the last word in fire equipment.

In 1926 the platoon system was instituted, giving the firemen better working conditions and providing the city with a reserve in case of danger.

One of the interesting stories about the department was the call to Malta in 1897. Upon their arrival, the men found that the hose would not fit the Malta hydrants, and the department was helpless. It is said that the department was transported to Malta on a flat car.

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COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS AT ALL TIMES
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207 EAST LINCOLN HIGHWAY

Police Department

Early accounts are silent on the actions of police in DeKalb until 1885 when the City Council established the Police Department on July twenty-second.

At that time a Marshall and Assistant Marshall were authorized and duties were prescribed. A "calaboose" was mentioned in the ordinance, but no specific location was provided. It is believed that it was located where the fire station is today.

From then on the records are quite sketchy. It is known that T. J. Adams was chief in 1899 and 1909 and the names of Oliver Jones and Alec Blount are remembered by old timers. Pictures of the Crimson Day parades show the police wearing the helmets of the period.

Later names of Frank Ridell, James Scott, and the very popular Sid Rowe are recalled.

In 1916 an ambulance was purchased which doubled as a patrol wagon replacing the horse drawn vehicle then in use. It was around 1919 that motorcycles were introduced into the picture.

Since the building of the City Hall in 1891, the headquarters of the department have been located there.

Railroads of DeKalb

Chicago and Northwestern Railroad

The first railroad to enter the City of DeKalb was the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad, which reached its terminus on August 12, 1853. Its station was erected at Third Street, just back of where the J. C. Penny Store stands today. This station was on the north side of the tracks. The second station to be built was on the other side of the same street. Later it was moved to the site between Sixth and Seventh Streets on the north side of the tracks where the east end was used for a passenger station and the west end for freight.

This station continued to be used until 1891 when the double track of the railroad was completed and the station which we now know today was built. This station has been in constant use ever since, having been remodeled about ten years ago.

The old station across the tracks from the present brick one is used for less than carload freight and the east end is rented to a wholesale grocery firm. Across the tracks to the east was what was known as the out-bound freight station where all of the out-bound less than carload freight was handled. It is now used by the DeKalb Molasses Feed Company.

It is interesting to note that on August 25,

(Continued on Page 30)



The above symbolized the collective thinking of the small band of DeKalb County farmers who founded our company. Down through the years it has been our guiding light and goal.

The success with which this has been achieved can be measured in the fact that today — as in the past 16 years — more farmers plant DeKalb than any other seed corn.

DeKalb Chix, likewise, are now known the country over and are assuming a place of leadership in the poultry industry.

A DeKalb first — hybrid sorghum — has made its appearance only this year on the great plains — it is destined to become another great companion to the flying ear and flying chix.



DE KALB AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Commercial Producers and Distributors of DeKalb Corn, Chix and Hybrid Sorghum

1853, the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad placed into service a locomotive which was named The DeKalb. This was a 75 ton engine built by Baldwin Locomotive Works and had a copper fire box. It probably was the second coal burning engine to be used by the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad.

Because of the great use of passenger trains in the early days, the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, which was a successor to the Galena and Chicago Union, ran many trains from DeKalb to Chicago. Among the best known trains of that day was the Clinton passenger which ran from Chicago to Clinton and also the Sterling passenger which ran from Chicago to Sterling and return. The Sterling was a much used train, arriving in DeKalb around 8:15 in the morning, eastbound, and coming back about 6:30 in the evening. It was a very popular train with the merchants of the town who went to Chicago to do their buying.

In 1884 there was built north and south from DeKalb, the Northern Illinois Railroad connecting Belvidere with the coal fields of Spring Valley. This railroad was taken over by the Chicago and Northwestern Railway on June 9, 1888.

When this railroad was in operation with its passenger service, it was possible to go by train from DeKalb to Madison, Wisconsin and, by changing cars at Belvidere, to Rockford and Freeport. The trains from the south, particularly the one arriving around eight o'clock in the morning, carried many students to the DeKalb schools in the heyday of the railroad. The passenger service was discontinued early in the 1920's. The line to the north was discontinued north of Sycamore in 1942, but the line south to Spring Valley is still a very important link in the Chicago and Northwestern System.

Chicago Great Western

The line running from DeKalb to Sycamore was built in 1893 as the DeKalb and Great Western Railway, which was a subsidiary of the Chicago Great Western.

This line, for a long time, gave DeKalb passenger service from DeKalb to Chicago via Sycamore and at various times offered excursion rates to St. Charles where Pottowatomi Park was the attraction. The Chicago and Great Western abandoned its track from DeKalb to Sycamore in the early 1950's and now uses the tracks of the Chicago Northwestern Railway once a day for a switch run to come to DeKalb to serve the industries on its line.

Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota Railway

This railway, built as an outer belt line to eliminate the traffic through Chicago, reached

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DE KALB, ILLINOIS

Congratulations—

TO THE CITY OF DE KALB



**FOX VALLEY
CLEANERS and LAUNDERERS
OF DISTINCTION**



Sycamore Road in front of Sanitarium in 1908. Note DeKalb - Sycamore Electric Car at right

DeKalb October 24, 1904, when a 38 car freight train pulled into the station here. The next day a special train ran from Aurora to DeKalb carrying passengers.

This railroad was taken over in 1909 by the Chicago, Milwaukee and Gary Railway and was extended from DeKalb to Rockford through Kirkland. In 1922, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railway took it over, abandoning the line north of Kirkland. In 1947, that part of the railroad between DeKalb and Aurora was abandoned and torn up, but the balance of the line from DeKalb to Kirkland is still an important part of the Milwaukee System.

Chicago, Aurora and DeKalb Railway

This railway was built in 1904 and 1905 from Aurora to DeKalb. They used steam power for a while, later fitted up a street car from the Aurora City System with a gasoline engine which they used until 1908. This was not satisfactory and in 1909 three electric passenger cars and two express cars were purchased. The first trip of these cars was in 1910. The terminal was at Fourth Street in the Building now occupied by the Public Service Company for a meter testing building. The line failed in 1916 and was abandoned and scrapped in 1922.

DeKalb Sycamore Electric Traction Company

There was an electric traction company operating between DeKalb and Sycamore in

the early days of the twentieth century. This line was built and ready for operation on December 13th, 1903. The road ran from the west door of the Administration Building of the college, down Normal Road to Lincoln Highway, east to Fourth, north to Oak, east to Tenth, north to Pleasant and east to Thirteenth which followed to Sycamore Road, which road it followed into Sycamore.

Half hour service was maintained throughout most of the time this road was in existence. The cars left DeKalb every hour on the hour and left Sycamore every half hour. The equipment of the road consisted of three passenger cars, the combination work and sweeper car plus a number of open summer cars.

This company purchased and maintained a park about half way between DeKalb and Sycamore which was called Electric Park. In this park was a ball diamond, a pavilion for dancing, a theatre and a picnic ground. Many a celebration on Labor Day and 4th of July was held here.

At one time the company advertised that you could leave DeKalb on the eight o'clock car in the evening and arrive at Electric Park to attend a vaudeville and motion picture show at the theatre at 8:15 and the total cost including a reserved seat in the theatre was twenty-five cents.

(Continued on Page 34)



Penny Flame* says:

"It's a privilege..."

To DeKalb on her 100th anniversary, Penny Flame and all of us at Northern Illinois Gas say: "Happy Birthday!" While the community celebrates, we think it's a good time to tell you we're proud to carry on a long-standing tradition of service to the people of DeKalb . . . it's a privilege we look forward to carrying on for years to come.

As you may know, one of our predecessor companies brought the early conveniences of gas to DeKalb shortly after the turn of the century. It was in 1901 when the newly-constructed, coal-gas plant of the DeKalb County Gas Company began serving the city. Since then, modern gas has come a long way. The homemaker of today enjoys fast, clean, economical cooking — speedy, low-cost water heating — silent, trouble-free refrigeration and many other comforts and conveniences that gas provides for the finest features of better living. Today, more than half a million homes, businesses and industries we serve throughout northern Illinois use gas in a myriad of ways hardly dreamed-of a century ago.

Gas serves You
and the Community, too!



*Trade-Mark.
Copyright, 1956, Northern Illinois Gas Company



West Lincoln Highway - 1904

This road did a thriving business in the days before the hard road and the automobile and was used by many of the workers who worked in DeKalb or Sycamore and lived in the other town. However, in 1924, it bowed to the inevitable and on April 17th, 1924, the road went out of service when the eleven o'clock car out of Sycamore entered the Car Barn in DeKalb. It was soon scrapped and the road is nothing more than a memory at the present time.

These are only a part of the many railroads which were projected through DeKalb in the early days. Other railroads were projected from the south heading toward Rockford, but not built. It was possible at one time for a person to go from DeKalb to New York by inter-urban car, leaving DeKalb on the Chicago, Aurora and DeKalb and making connections in Chicago.

Buses

Following the electric line out of DeKalb, bus routes were established from DeKalb to

Sycamore and from DeKalb to Geneva and from DeKalb to Dixon. These bus lines operated spasmodically for several years and the ones east and west in particular were finally merged into what we know now as the Greyhound Lines, which run through DeKalb. Bus service between DeKalb and Sycamore has been spasmodic as the traffic has not been too great, although in latter years the buses seem to have a firmer foothold.

Intra City Transportation

The first intra city transportation probably was the "hotel bus" which the hotels maintained to meet the train and carry prospective guests to the respective places. Another means of transportation inside the city was the horse drawn hack which was available at the livery stables for wedding, funerals, and other occasions.

As the automobile came into existence, in 1915, a jitney bus was established, which ran

on a specified route at a fare of five cents. Soon, however, this was changed to a 10 cent fare and was not run on a specified route, but could be taken to any part of the city. It is from this bus that our present system of taxi cabs has developed.

Intra city bus lines have been tried on three occasions and at no time have they been a success. For some reason or other, the people of DeKalb prefer to ride taxis instead of a bus.

Waterworks

A system of waterworks was installed early in the history of DeKalb. In the early 1870's about 1872 or 1875 a well was dug in Huntley Park and a system of mains laid. This waterworks system is said to be the thirteenth system to be installed in the state of Illinois.

A windmill was used for pumping and a round tank on stilts was built for a reservoir. This equipment served until a steam pump was installed and the windmill sold in September of 1886.

Due to the demand for water for a growing population a standpipe was authorized to be erected in Huntley Park on February 12, 1889. This measure and all of the following ordinances of the city council pertaining to the standpipe passed by a majority of one vote.

The standpipe was finished on September 20, 1889 and the opposition claimed it could not be filled. The city engineer turned on the pumps and after six days had the 242,000 gallon tank overflowing.

It served its time and was replaced by a new elevated tank on July 2, 1952. The Huntley Park tank was drained October 30, 1952 61 years after its completion.

In 1951 and 1952 extensions to the system were made costing \$550,000 which was covered by revenue bonds.

This is a far cry from the story in 1889 when 900 customers paid \$6.50 for water and the city had only 14 miles of mains.

CHILTON'S SPORT SHOP

148 N. Second St. Phone 6-3152 DeKalb, Ill.



TEAM OUTFITTERS and HOBBIES



Wilson, Rawlings and Spalding Sports Equipment

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An important part of our services is to provide your organization with the most up-to-date time-saving office machines, accessories, equipment and supplies so that your office may function more efficiently.

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North First and Locust

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DE KALB, ILLINOIS

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Pies — Cakes — Donuts

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Communications

It was 1879 that the first mention of a telephone was made in the DeKalb Chronicle. On September 20, 1879 it was stated that Ithamer Robinson was in Chicago to see about a telephone line from DeKalb to Sycamore.

In 1888 a news item reported that one of the downtown stores had a connection made with a place in the northeast part of town. In 1890 the Rolling Mills on Second and Locust was linked with the Glidden House (Hotel DeKalb) by phone. Telephone installations were news in those days.

In this era the Central Union Telephone Company was operating and on June 11, 1895 the DeKalb County Telephone Company was organized. Three years later in 1898 they were given a franchise by the City Council.

From then until 1912 two telephone companies were in operation in DeKalb. It was common for the business houses to advertise "both phones."

On April 1, 1912 the DeKalb County Telephone Company purchased the interests of the Central Union. Later the name was changed to DeKalb Ogle Telephone Company. This company has expanded until now they are housed in their own building and the system has been changed to dial operation, the latter change taking place June 13, 1954.

It is not certain when the telegraph came to town except to surmise that it came with the railroad. The Western Union has always maintained an office here. One of the interesting papers in the historical files is a letter from Malta to the Western Union in DeKalb to send a telegram to Plano. The date 1872.

The Postal Telegraph came with the Chicago Great Western but has not maintained an office here for some time.

When the radio bug hit this country three DeKalb youths were among the first to build sets. These three were Charles Parson, Claude Middleton and Willard McEwen.

DeKalb's radio station came into being in 1946 when Rev. T. H. Lane and others formed the DeKalb Radio Studios with studios in the Wright Building, but no transmitter. They operated through WMRO in Aurora for about six months.

Later they erected their own transmitter on North First Street and went on the air for the first time December 8, 1947. On November 5, 1955 they moved into their own studios on North First Street. The transmitter was also moved to the same site.

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Your House of Friendly Service ... the

TOWER FINANCE

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Loans \$25 to \$500

130 N. Fourth St.

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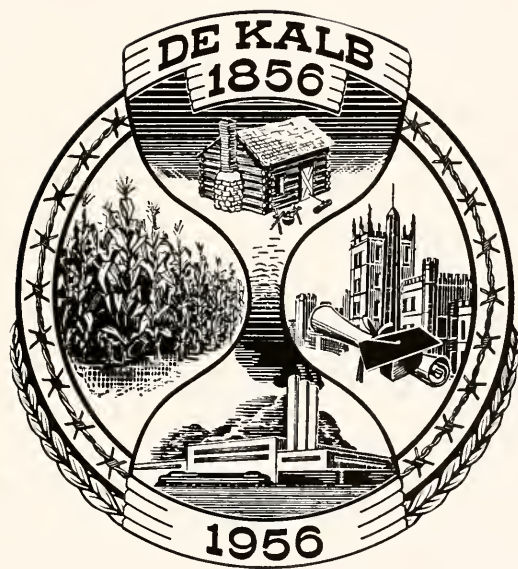
DE KALB, ILLINOIS

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13. Diners Dizzy Dopes
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15. K. of C.
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17. Les & Sals
18. Milt Andersons Men
19. Manly Methodists
20. McGirr Generals
21. The Mule Skinners
22. Live Wires
23. The Yard Birds
24. Pearsons Pioneers
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28. Sullivans Prospectors
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30. Twins
31. Ten-O-Nine Club
32. Wurli Tuners
33. Cousin Bill and His Bearded Cousins
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35. Square and Compass
36. DeKalb Hybrids
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THE DRAMATIC HISTORICAL PANORAMA
"THE DEKALB STORY"

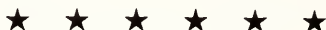
N. I. S. COLLEGE FIELD—JUNE 12-13-14-15-16, 1956—8:15 P. M.

A JOHN B. ROGERS PRODUCTION
PRODUCED IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE DE KALB CENTENNIAL, Inc.

RICHARD M. QUAY
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FOR THE JOHN B. ROGERS CO.



Synopsis of Scenes

THE PROLOGUE

A brilliant scene in which "The Queen of the DeKalb Centennial" welcomes visitors from every corner of the Nation. Surrounded by beautiful ladies of her Court, the Queens Cadets, Sailorettes, and the Guard of Honor, she greets representatives of the Forty-Eight States.

**EPISODE ONE
"This Is DeKalb"**

A salute to the pioneers of DeKalb who, with flashing axes, felled the growth of timber in order to found a new settlement in the New Land of Promise.

**EPISODE TWO
"The Heritage of Freedom"**

Beneath the tall trees of DeKalb, the Indians paused in their meanderings to camp and hunt. Here they prayed for fertility, danced to appease their Gods, and carry on their family life.

**EPISODE THREE
"The Indian War"**

One of the great Indian Chiefs known in this section of the Country was Shabbona. He made two midnight rides to warn the early settlers of impending danger with the Illini tribe.

**EPISODE FOUR
"The New Frontier"**

In 1818 Illinois became a State. As soon as the land was officially opened adventurous souls set out to seek a new home on the frontier.

**EPISODE FIVE
"Remember the Sabbath"**

When the first settlers came to this land, they brought not only their determination and courage, but another priceless gift, their faith in God.

**EPISODE SIX
"The Dawn of Education"**

As the area increased in population, education became a subject of great consideration to the people of DeKalb. From the crude surroundings of a simple beginning to the fine system of schools today, DeKalb has progressed in its march toward a higher educational standard.

**EPISODE SEVEN
"The Coming of the Iron Horse"**

The first train arrives, two ribbons of steel now connect with the rest of the nation. The first railroad to be built to DeKalb was the Galena & Chicago Union. It was completed to DeKalb on August 12, 1835.

EPISODE EIGHT
"War Between the States"

Event followed event—The Southern States seceded from the Union one by one. The nation was undergoing the stress of turmoil of a Civil War.

EPISODE NINE
"Barb Wire"

One of the most perplexing problems of the agricultural industry in the early days was that of fencing. Glidden, Ellwood and Haish will long be remembered for their contributions to the Wire Industry and helping DeKalb to become known as "Barb City."

EPISODE TEN
"Bikes and Bustles and Moustaches"

It was the era of "The Bicycle Built for Two," "Leg O' Mutton Sleeves," and "Wasp-Like Waists" . . . "Pull Down Your Vest," and "23 Skidoo" were the forerunners of the slang terms of today. The innovation called the "Horseless Carriage" made its appearance and caused quite a sensation. All good clean fun of "Gay 90's" reminiscent of the days when "Grandma" was in her teens.

EPISODE ELEVEN
"The Founding of N. I. S. C."

Perhaps one of the most significant facts in DeKalb in 1899 was the completion of one of the finest colleges in Northern Illinois, Northern Illinois State Normal School.

EPISODE TWELVE
"The Haish Fire"

In May, 1914, fire broke out in the paint room of the Haish Manure Spreader Factory and ultimately engulfed two City blocks.

EPISODE THIRTEEN
"To the Cause for Freedom"

The year was 1914, and again the people of DeKalb heard the troubling sounds of war in the making. The climax came in 1917 when the Lusitania was sunk and the United States entered the War.

EPISODE FOURTEEN
"The Roaring Twenties"

1927—Prosperity abounded, it was the age of "Yes, We Have No Bananas," "Plus Fours" and "Flappers." A dance sensation hit the nation and everyone in DeKalb was doing the Charleston.

EPISODE FIFTEEN
"The Seige for Freedom"

When the startling news that came to the United States on that quiet afternoon of December 7, 1941, war came to the United States for the second time in a generation.

EPISODE SIXTEEN
"The Hall of Fame"

In the past century, DeKalb has produced many fine Americans. This evening we would like to honor three of its prominent sons who have contributed so much to the City, Country and County.

EPISODE SEVENTEEN
"The Atomic Age"

With the arrival of the forties came Man's Knowledge of splitting the atom. This he used for a defensive measure, a method of destruction which heretofore had been unknown and unequalled. Today, man is striving to use the atom for Peacetime progress. Will it be the beginning of a new advanced civilization or the destructive end?

EPISODE EIGHTEEN
"Young America"

Here is the future of America. Here is the future of DeKalb. Upon these young Americans will rest the responsibility for the moral, spiritual and educational development of our nation.

FINALE

There are no bounds or limits to the frontiers of freedom. Now the darkness and wilderness are far behind. Ahead lies new boundaries, widening, expanding, certain to roll back before the same unquenchable spirit of which we are heirs. As products of a pioneer people, it is ours to go forward, to surmount the obstacles, to keep the faith. So, Proudly We Hail DeKalb's Second Century.

SISTERS OF THE SWISH CHAPTERS

DeKalb, Illinois Centennial—1856 to 1956

CHARTER NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER	NAME OF ORGANIZATION
1	a—Fabulous-Flouncy-Floozies—Gen. Electric Co. Building No. 4	
	b—Calico Queens—Gen. Electric Co., 1st shift	
	c—Jezebelles—Gen. Electric Co., Office	
	d—Crinoline Crimpers—Gen. Electric Co., Plant (2nd Shift)	
1A	Krazy-Dazy-Dames—Women of the Moose	
2	Gingham Girls—Glidden P. T. A.	
3	Calico-Cut-Up—Haish P. T. A.	
4	Ducky Bonnet Belles—V. of F. Wars Auxiliary	
5	Century Belles—Cyclone Fence	
6	Knit-A-Biddies—Knit-A-Bit Club	
7	Legion Lassies—American Legion Auxiliary	
8	Chintz Charmers—Christian Science Group	
9	Beta Belles—Beta Sigma Phi	
10	Centennial Belles—Neighborhood Clan	
11	Army Belles—Salvation Army	
12	Ballot Box Belles—League of Women Voters	
13	Baptists of Yesteryear—First Baptist Church	
14	Borbie Bustles—D.T.H.S. Girls	
15	Beauty Belles—Chamberlain Beauty Nook	
16	Belles of South 2nd Street—Neighborhood Group	
17	Belles of St. Mary's—St. Mary's Church	
18	Better Halves—N.I.S.C. Student Wives	
19	Birthday Bustle Biddies—Bridge Club	
20	B-P-ettes—Business & Professional Women's Club	
21	Bustle Rustlers—DeKalb Mothers' Club	
22	Calico Cats—Social Group	
23	Castle Queens—N.I.S.C. Service Employees	
24	Centennial Centrals—DeKalb-Ogle Telephone	
25	Centennial Key Notes—Rudolph Wurlitzer Co.	
26	Chalis Sallies—Littlejohn P. T. A.	
27	Coltonville Country Cuties— Coltonville Community Club	
28	C. & E. Trailerettes—Corey & Evans	
29	Covered Wagon Wheels—D. & S. Pinocle Club	
30	Crinoline Belles—Brady Factory	
31	Daisies Won't Tell—P.E.O. Chapter DX	
32	Dames of the Bonnet—DeKalb Wamans Club	
33	Daughters of DeKalb—Catholic Daughters of America	
34	DeKalb Doozies—Social Group	
35	D.P.H. Sisters—DeKalb Hospital Benefit Club	
36	DeKalb Trustetts—DeKalb Trust & Savings Bank	
37	Dinner Belles—Supper Club	
38	Dodgett Daisies—Social Group	
39	Drama Dears—Drama Club	
40	Ellwood Ellas—Ellwood P.T.A.	
41	Faculty Femmes—Dames Club—N.I.S.C. Faculty Wives	

CHARTER NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER	NAME OF ORGANIZATION
42	Farm Bureau Fillies—Farm Bureau	
43	First Voter Gals—League of Women Voters	
44	Flippin Jennies—Chain Ten Club	
45	Frontier Frills—Social Group	
46	Gay Gals—H.S. Class of 1950	
47	Goal Post Swishes—Goal Post Restaurant	
48	Home & School Belles—High School P.T.A.	
49	Homemakers of DeKalb County Home— DeKalb County Home	
50	Hospital Chimes—St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary	
51	Immanuel Pioneers—Immanuel English Lutheran Church	
52	Jane & Jeon Twirlers—Square Dance Group	
53	Jane Parker Girls—A. & P. Store	
54	Jolly Gold Diggers—Jolly Twelve Club	
55	Junabelles—Junior Woman's Club	
56	Kiddie Kuddlers—DeKalb Community Mothers' Club	
57	Kissin' Kuzzins—Social Group	
58	Lucia Sisters—Social Group	
59	Main Street Molls—Business Women	
60	Mayflower Maidens—Congregational Church	
61	Merry Marthas—Four Square Gospel Church	
62	Merry Maids & Matrons—McMurry P.T.A.	
63	Neptune Daughters—Barb City Boat Club	
64	Nightingales—DeKalb Registered Nurses Club	
65	Northern Belles—Northern Illinois Corporation	
66	Patriotic Pals—Women's Patriotic Association	
67	Pokarettes—Social Group	
68	Ruffled Does—Lady Elks	
69	Shrine Belles—DeKalb White Shrine 47	
70	South Side Sols—Social Group	
71	Spaghetti Swishes—Jon & Jen's Grill	
72	Stage Struck Sisters—Stage Coach Players	
73	Star Sisters—Eastern Star Club	
74	Suburban Sunbonnet Suzzies—Tilton Park Residents	
75	Sunbonnet Lassies—Home Bureau—P.M. Group	
76	Suomi Sisters—Social Group	
77	Swirls of the Swish—National Hairdressers Assn.	
78	Swish Teens—Junior High	
79	The Cabinettes—Log Cabin Group	
80	Tilton Tillies—Tilton Park Group	
81	Twentieth Century Pioneers—20th Century Club	
82	Vinkingettes—Ladies of the Viking	
83	Wagon Wheels—DeKalb Commercial Body Corp.	
84	Wesley Calico Gals—Methodist Women	
85	Wurl-Wins—Rudolph Wurlitzer Co.—Office	
86	Yankee Doodle Gals—Women's Relief Corps	
87	McMurry Sixteen Swishes—McMurry 7th-8th Children	
88	Mel's Musical Belles—Mel Elliott Music Center	
89	Blue Belles—Altar and Rosary Society	

CAST FOR "THE DE KALB STORY"

PROLOGUE

Sponsored by Explorers Post 18, 28, 15, 5, and Girl Scouts
Troop 26, Sycamore and Troop 1, DeKalb

Trumpeters —

Edgar Knadle
Bonnie LaVen

Nansen Glidden Waite Embree
Roberta Shawver
Donna DeGraffenried

Codets —

Judy McConn
Kathryn Hildebrandt
Judy Healey
Sandra Entwistle
Karen Johnson
Caroline Hoppe

Ruth Ann Johnston
Sandra Burch
Judy Jobe
Susie Paulus
Kay Marris
Borb Suddeth

Sailorettes —

Dolly Beaumont
Kay Mathre
Marg Hayter
Mavis Chaplin
Phyllis Prather
Miriam Montavan
(Margaret Schiesser)

Karen Schovland
Anita Bullington
Jackie Schoenholz
Sharon Tamas
Dorothy Koehler
Cannie Kensiki

States —

Beverly Roberts
Sherlynd Baird
Verla Spratt
Dawn Mathre
Carol Hakala
Janice Read

Judy Jackman
Merija Farley
Bonnie Butler
Wanda Strayan
Sandy Napier
Ann Madison

Girl Scouts —

Nancy MacGinnitie
Patty Smith
Marcia Olson
Kathy Baker
Jule Miller
Sarah Glidden
Barbara Plapp
Carol Cutts
Mary Lee Wright

Susan Chambers
Sharon Myrlari
Judy Wahl
Karen Bend
Patty Berkley
Karen Munson
Kathy Shepardon
Alice Saar
Andreas Fariss

Boy Scouts —

Michael Suttie
Bob Myers
Roger Kelly
Bob Bowman

Dan Anderson
Dave Royalty
John Luhtala
Dave Baganrief
Steve Tetmeyer

Horesmen —

June Threstod
Bud Smith
Gordon Plucker
Tom Anderson
Tom Gallagher
Jerry Bemis
Bob Trotter

Loren Mullins
Sam Cushin
Morgen Johnson
Dick Gallagher
Johnny Pigott
Bob Suddeth
Fred Busse

EPISODE 1 "This Is DeKalb"

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Worner Mary Cloir McGirr
Earl Warner Emmy Lou McGirr

EPISODE 2 "Heritage of Freedom"

Jim Long
Ken Budrow
Wayne Mosher
Ron Teague

Karen Lindstrom
Karen Johnson
Janice Read
Pat Ridolph

Pat Raach
Gary Fariss
Harald Thorn
John Thorn
Rannie Corey
Lee Homan
Roger Henson

"Skip" Boyes
Keith Kempson
Bill Arnald
Rabin Bosworth
Bill Maeller
John Randall
Larry Berke
Jim Ellis

Girl Scout Troop 26—Sycamore

Jane Moore
Sally Clamer
Karen Kretschmer

Joanne Finn
Karen Kuhl
Jean Parker

Indian Dancers —

Karen Klasing
Bonnie Schmidt
Donna Ulery
Sharon Richie
Cannie Lynch
Cynthia Stevens

Vernetta Smith
Cynthia Smith
Phebe Countryman
Karen Simmons
Orva Johnson
Ruth Ann Hynes

EPISODE 3 "The Indian War" Same as the Cast of Episode 2

EPISODE 4 "The New Frontier"

Sponsored by Sisters of the Swish Chapters, Flippin Jennies,
Jane and Jean Twirlers, and Centennial Belles and Beaux

Bill and Florence Nichols
Bea and Cliff Myers
Delna and Dick Kozlawski
Ron and Joyce Rogers
George and Florence Bloyd
Don and Betty Schou
Loran and Clara Hormes
Clarence Divine and
Mildred Lehman
Garrel and Esther Davis
Pete and Nancy Paholy
Bill and Edna Shields
Jae and Jennie Stassel
Russell and Juanita Roland
George and Mary Munch
Bill Johnson
Beverly Cole

Roger Shields
Patsy Kozlowski
Barbara Forest
Dianne Perusse
Suzanne Perusse

Alternates

Gene Shields
Arlene Davis

Centennial Belles and Beaux

John and Betty Miller
Roger and Frances Gustafson
Ronald Cross and Ruth Taylor
Jack Cross and
Charlotte Anthenate

Children's Set

Harold Thorn
John Thorn
Arlo Bloyd
Richard Lehman
Barbara Myrick
Linda Myrick
Jeanne Perusse
Priscillo Lehman

Alternates —

Howard and Mildred Eychaner

Children's Set

Jerry Shields
Wayne Davis
Bruce Pahaly

EPISODE 5 "Remember the Sabbath" Same as the Cast of Episode 4

EPISODE 6
"The Dawn of Education"
 Sponsored by The Salvation Army
 (SCHOOL SCENE)

Girls —

Jean Pondelick
 Linda Pondelick
 Ada King
 Pat Lay
 Carol Chambers
 Jay Chambers
 Alice Humes
 Alice Chambers

Boys —

Ralph Duncan
 Melvin Duncan
 Eddie Emberson
 Kenny Hoyes
 Teddy Higgins
 Daniel King
 Carl Votaw
 Ronald Votaw

EPISODE 7
"The Coming of the Iron Horse"

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wiltberger, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Leed
 Sharon and Steven and Linda
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ziegler Doc Mohrman, Mike, John,
 Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kahle and Janet
 and Lynn Mrs. Harry Wallin

EPISODE 8
"War Between the States"

Jim Brooks
 Morty Steinberg
 George Olsen
 Bruce Blasch
 Richard Hynes
 Larry Ball

Jim Kirby
 Bill Corney
 Craig Lloyd
 Steve Brickley
 Bill Snyder
 Tom Wood

EPISODE 9
"Barb Wire"

EPISODE 10
"Bikes, Bustles, and Moustaches"

German Band —

Alan Roselieb
 Arnold Lehto
 Robert Engstrom
 Howard Olson
 Dave Schroeder
 Brad Blum
 Dean Pearson
 Floyd Schroeder
 Warren Porter

Alice Hartwig, Louise Reoms
 Leon Listy
 Bev and Tom Cliffe, Charles
 John, Jim and Joe
 Patricia Gallagher
 Pot Turk
 Ken Moore
 Dianne Waltz

See-Saw Girls—By Helaine

Dance Studio

Jane Gallagher
 Helen Rohlik
 Jacky Simmons
 Jane Raymond
 Sharon Hynes
 Joyce Klosing
 Karen Hendrickson
 Sharon Gorman
 Bernice Johnson
 Jean Stonesifer
 Kaye Kittleson
 Sandy Kahler

Gay Nineties —

Ed McGirr
 Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Wilkins
 Jim Corney
 Sue Carney
 Bill Windle
 Alice Heathcote
 Beverly Cole
 Bill Johnson
 Janet Thompson
 Mary Lyons
 Dale Marshall
 Gerry Ball
 Aorne Anderson
 Joan Hickman
 Denny McGirr
 Jim Scott
 June Fagenbush,
 Maryann, Bennie
 Elaine Graham, Mike
 Karen

Can-Can Girls—By DeKalb Ag

Beverly McArtor
 Beverly Woscher
 Barbara Russell
 Ginnee Dietz
 Millie Sulaver
 Fran Hawkins
 Shirley Lee

EPISODE 11
"The Founding of N. I. S. C."
 Sponsored by Kiwanis Club

Vere Goodyear
 Edgar Knodle
 Chauncey Watson
 Mrs. A. Oderkirk
 Word Miller

Mrs. Ward Miller
 Marge Lyman
 George Boardman
 Wm. O'Connell

EPISODE 12
"The Haish Fire"

EPISODE 13
"To the Cause for Freedom"
 Sponsored by The American Legion

Fred Swigley
 Leonard Stigliani
 Ray Wing

Ray Corey
 George Bennett
 Mrs. Nettie Wing

EPISODE 14
"The Roaring Twenties"

Charleston Dancers—By Helaine Dance Studio

Vernetto Smith
 Cynthia Smith
 Phebe Countryman
 Karen Simmons

Orva Johnson
 Bonnie Schmidt
 Sharon Richie
 Cynthia Stevens

EPISODE 15
"The Siege for Freedom"
 Sponsored by The American Legion

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Clark and Children
 Mana, Skippy, Tubby, and Richard

Jerome Berkes
 John Hilbert
 Robert Copehart

Evan Owens
 James Schoo

EPISODE 16
"Hall of Fame"

Mrs. Eugenie Walker
 Mr. Tom Janeway
 Mr. James Moldrum

Mr. John Lloyd
 Mrs. Beulah Hayter

EPISODE 17
"The Atomic Age"
 Sponsored by the Kiwanis

Al Oderkirk

Irving Rissman
 Dean Lyman

EPISODE 18
"Young America"
 Cast from Episode 1 and 8

FINALE
The Entire Cast

NARRATION BY

Mrs. Ann Smith Gray
 Mrs. Eugenie Walker
 Miss Edith Wentworth

Robert Finan
 Rev. William D. White
 Dr. John Lloyd—Guest

Program of Daily Events

DEKALB CENTENNIAL

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Centennial Religious Dedication Day

Morning

Centennial observances in DeKalb Churches. Theme: Past, Present and Future Religious Endeavor in DeKalb.

Evening

8:00 p. m. All Faith Centennial Service—Hopkins Park. Special music by DeKalb Municipal Band and combined choirs of DeKalb Churches. Centennial address by Dr. Francis Geigle, Northern Illinois State College.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

Industry-Education Day

All Day

Industrial-Education display by DeKalb Industries—DeKalb Junior High School.

Evening

6:00 p. m.—Industry-Education Day dinner—Address by Earl J. Johnson, vice president, United Press Assn., presentation of National Industrial leaders. Presentation of awards for Junior Achievements by Robert Smith.

9:00 p. m.—Centennial Ball—College Gym. Music by Russ Carlyle. Coronation of DeKalb Centennial Queen and presentation of her Court of Honor.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Young America Day

Morning

10:00 a. m.—Children's Centennial Parade—Downtown DeKalb.

Afternoon

1:00 p. m.—Games, Races and Contests for small fry—North College Field. Awards for winners—free refreshments for all participants.

3:30 p. m.—Little League All-Star Game—Little League Diamond.

3:30 p. m.—Teen Ager Matinee Dance—"Hi-Time To Coke"—Gilbert Hall. Featuring Adrienne Falcon, Chicago disc jockey.

Evening

7:30 p. m.—Pre-pageant entertainment—Pageant Field, N. I. S. C.

8:15 p. m.—Premier presentation of the huge historical pageant-spectacle "THE DE KALB STORY," with fireworks finale.

10:00 p. m.—Street Dancing—Downtown DeKalb—two locations.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Ladies' Day

Afternoon

1:00 p. m.—Fashion Show, "Styles of Yesterday and Today"—N. I. S. C. Island—Maggie Dady, guest narrator and commentator. Presentation of visiting dignitaries.

2:30 p. m.—Ladies Centennial Tea and Art Show—Presentation of winning costumes—Sisters of the Swish, Gilbert Hall Lawn, N. I. S. C.

Evening

7:30 p. m.—Presentation of Awards—Sisters of the Swish—Pageant Stage.

8:15 p. m.—Second performance of the pageant-spectacle, "THE DE KALB STORY," with fireworks finale.

10:00 p. m.—Free street dancing—Downtown DeKalb—two locations.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Pioneer and Homecoming Day

All Day

Registration of Pioneers, visitors, and former residents at Centennial Headquarters.

Afternoon

2:00 p. m.—Pioneer and homecoming recognition ceremony, Hopkins Park. Recognition of oldest pioneers, of longest residence, and former residents coming longest distance. Presentation of U. S. Senator Everett Dirksen, and introduction of other dignitaries. Centennial address by The Honorable William G. Stratton, Governor of Illinois.

Evening

6:30 p. m.—Golden Belles and Beaux Dinner—Rice Hotel, honoring DeKalb couples who have observed their 50th wedding anniversary.

7:45 p. m.—Presentation of Pioneer awards by Senator Dirksen.

8:15 p. m.—Third performance of the Pageant-Spectacle, "THE DE KALB STORY," with fireworks finale.

10:00 p. m.—Street dancing—Downtown DeKalb—two locations.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Rural Day

All Day

Exhibit of Agricultural Relics—Hopkins Park.

Morning

10:30 a. m.—Safe Driving Demonstration—Ninth Street off Sycamore Road.

12:00 Noon—Old Fashioned Family Picnic—Hopkins Park.

Afternoon

1:15 p. m.—Salute to Agricultural Progress—Address by Lloyd Burlingame, Station WLS.—Presentation of Agricultural Dignitaries.

Evening

7:30 p. m.—Final Judging—Brothers of the Brush—10 classes—presentation of awards—Pageant Stage.

8:15 p. m.—Fourth presentation—Pageant Spectacle—"THE DE KALB STORY," with fireworks finale.

10:00 p. m.—Free Street Dancing—Downtown DeKalb—two locations.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Faith In Our Future Day

Morning

9:30 a. m.—Judging of Antique Vehicles.

9:30 a. m.—Time Capsule Ceremony—DeKalb Public Library.

10:30 a. m.—Beard Shaving Contest—Brothers of the Brush, Downtown DeKalb. Prizes to be awarded.

Afternoon

1:00 p. m.—Feature attraction of the celebration—Huge Centennial Parade—"SALUTE TO A CENTURY" 500 floats, 40 bands. Theme: From the past to the future.

4:30 p. m.—Display of Floats—DeKalb High School.

Evening

7:30 p. m.—Prepageant entertainment.

8:15 p. m.—Final performance of the pageant-spectacle, "THE DE KALB STORY," with tremendous fireworks finale.



ALL WEEK

Imperial Shows—Centennial Midway

Historic Window Displays—Downtown DeKalb

DE KALB CENTENNIAL QUEEN CONTESTANTS

As this booklet goes to press, the DeKalb Centennial Queen and her ten attendants in the Court of Honor, have not been selected. The citizens of DeKalb, however, may well pay tribute in appreciation of the following Queen Candidates whose civic spirit, energy and ingenuity were a major contribution to the success of the DeKalb Centennial:

Nancy Acher	Georgia Kirby
Barbara Anderson	Nancy Kittleson
Mrs. Barbara Anderson	Marilyn Kuusisto
Evelyn Anderson	Marjorie Lawson
Judy Anderson	Mary Lou Lee
Mrs. Scott Anderson	Bonnie Less
Charlotte Anthenat	Carol Marcheschi
Carole Askelson	Joan Marshall
Janice Averill	Billie McFall
Sharon Baker	Janaan McGirr
Judy Barrett	Carol Mantavan
Mrs. Susan Brayton	Miriam Mantavan
Joan Carter	Deanecia Mantgares (Genesa)
Dolores Charlesworth	Jean Myers
Joan Christiansen	Sandy Myers
Carol Clausen	Kay Mullis
Joyce Cook	Mary O'Brien
Mary Ellyn Derix	Marian Panttila
Elois Desponett	Joanne Raddatz
Peggy J. Doctor	Lois Randall
Lorna Dannelly	Florence Marie Rauworth
Pat Frederick	Mrs. Hal Riehle
Judith Fuller	Sharon Ritchie
Verna Garman	Sally Rogers
Pat J. Gaston	Jean Rohlik
Mary Hayter	Carol Taylor
Janet Holmes	Mary Ann Sanderson
Juanita R. Horton	Mrs. Walter Sanderson
Barbara Borine Hunt	Jane Smith
Pat Hunt	Vernetta Smith
Sue Hutchinson	Doris Stark
Mrs. Dennis Johnson	Mildred Sulaver
Marion Johnson	Rita Sullivan
Marilyn Johnson	Carol Swanson
Orva Johnson	Donna Swanson
Pat Kahle	Yvonne Swedberg
Dorothy Kimbell	Margie Voss

Kangaroo Court—

Clarence Wales
Chuck Maser
Joe Stossel
F. E. Schundler & Co.
Hallgren Lumber Co., Inc.
Somonauk Saw Mills
Builders & Lumber Supply
Curt Bagle

Clark Cryar
Kallal Sheet Metal Shop
Bill Shields
DeKalb Fire Dept.
Gordon Hardware
Dick Thorsen
Roger Jacobs

UNIQUE FEATURE OF AN OUTSTANDING CELEBRATION



One of the many unusual features of the DeKalb Centennial—features which distinguish it from the many other Centennials that are celebrated across the country each year—is the outstanding headquarters building. This building was constructed by the DeKalb Centennial Committee exclusively for use during the Centennial.

The key element in the development of the idea for a special building for Centennial headquarters was the outstanding cooperation evidenced by local citizens who contributed freely of their labor, time, money, and building materials to make the project possible. Many, many long hours of hard work went into this building, and the following who gave in one way or another toward its construction—have contributed significantly to the success of the DeKalb Centennial:

KENNETH HALLGREN—NEALE SKORBERG, Co-Chairmen PAUL JOHNSON, Foreman

Carpenters:

Tom Crooke
Anthony Roman
Edward Johnson
Scotty Buchan
L. G. Antonsen
Arthur Munson
Andy Carter
Lone Severson
Lawrence Knutson
Rodney Latimer
Arvo Nyrhila
Richard Solsrud
Allen Swanson
Curt Lovig

Arnold Johnson
Charles Mosher
Joe Stossel
Arnold Steward
Andy Josendole
Everette Voddan
Wayne McGill
Walt Jacobson
Toivo Riihimaki
George Olsen
Vern Hickerson
Robert Morrison
William Kirby

Painters—Algot Maline, Chairman

Bror Eckberg
Kenneth Lovell
Sigfried Olson
William Reynolds
Helfred Nelson

Kenneth Kidd
Art Jacobson
Holger Moline
Howard Lovell
Poul Peterson

Donors and Loaners—

Hallgren Lumber Co., Inc.
Johnson & Jacobson
Forrest Struthers
Hub Electric Supply
Delano Floor Covering
Glass & Key Shop
Leo Todd DeKalb Roofing
Doty Pre-Cast Steps
B.P.O. Elks No. 765
Oberlin Nursery
Glidden Greenhouse

Hunt Feed Store
Troop 18, Boy Scouts
Troop 19, Girl Scouts
Johnson Concrete Co.
Rudolph Wurlitzer Co.
DeKalb Blacksmith Shop
Thorsen Sign Shop
James F. Simon Co.
General Electric Co.
Hickman Office Equip. Co.
Coca Cola Co.

Electricians—Forrest Struthers, Chairman

Ernie Youngren
DeLos Struthers

Joy Word
Enio Pantelo

Floors and Counters—

Al Delano

James Kayes

George Olsen

OTHER ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Centennial Committee also gratefully acknowledges the following persons and organizations without whose generous contributions of merchandise, services and money, the DeKalb Centennial could not have been the event it was.

QUEEN CONTEST

Pan American Airways
DeKalb Chronicle
Greenacre Cleaners
Rudolph Wurlitzer Company
Joseph Brody & Brothers
Ganterman Jewelers

M. F. Malone
Burch Jewelers
Duffy & Modeen
Skorberg Furniture
Gordon Hardware
Korl's Music & Hobby Store

Bimrose Furniture Store
Still's Drug Store
The Chorm Shop
Lehon's Drugs
DeKalb County Farm Bureau

DeKalb Township
Northern Illinois Gos Co.
Montgomery Ward Co.
Tommy's Bike Shop
Station WLBK

AUTOGRAPHS

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 100th YEAR



AMERICA'S FOREMOST FOOD RETAILER
SINCE 1859

FLOWERS
for all occasions

DeKalb's Leading Florist

JENSENS'
DE KALB GREENHOUSE

Phone 6-7151

PRAGERS FOOD STORE

229 South First Street

DeKalb, Illinois

Phone 6-6632

PEVONKA HEATING

147 South First St.

DeKalb, Ill.

FURNACE AND HEATING EQUIPMENT . . . Also
FURNACE CLEANING AND SERVICE

For Service Call . . . Day 6-6637 - Night 6-2880



Public Service Company office in 1906

Electric Utilities

DeKalb was not the first town in this area to have electric lights, as the neighboring town of Sycamore had this luxury in 1889. However, in 1891 John Glidden and S. E. Bradt established the first electric plant in DeKalb.

This was located in the building now standing on the northwest corner of Second and Locust and at that time was used for a grist mill. The franchise was granted October 5, 1891. This was a small 50 KW 110 volt plant and in 1895 the present plant was built.

This was organized as the DeKalb Electric Company on June 11, 1895. In 1899 in conjunction with the idea of an interurban line the name was changed to DeKalb Sycamore Electric Company. This in turn was purchased by the Springfield Gas & Electric Company in December 1921 and on January 13, 1922 it became the Illinois Power Company. This property was taken over by the Central Illinois Light Company and remained that until January 1, 1956, when the present company, Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, took over.

DeKalb was one of the first towns to have its water pumped by electric power. This occurred on October 8, 1894, when the city and the power company entered into a contract. Two days after the franchise was granted, the city and the light company entered into a contract for street lighting. It was specified that the lights were to be turned off at 11:00 p.m. unless clouds covered the moon, when they were to burn all night. On moonlight nights they were not turned on.

Growing 26 Years With DeKalb



Fruit and Vegetable Dealers

Bananas a Specialty



— ALL PHONES 6-4801 —



GENE'S PRODUCE

7th and Oak Sts.

DeKalb, Illinois

K A R L ' S MUSIC & HOBBY CENTER

132 NORTH THIRD ST.

DE KALB, ILLINOIS



HEADQUARTERS FOR
CAMERAS . . . PHOTOGRAPHIC SUPPLIES
PHONOGRAPH RECORDS

and
HOBBIES

Public Utilities Gas

Times change and so has the skyline of DeKalb. Gone now are the two gas tanks at 14th and Market which marked the location of the gas plant.

DeKalb's first use of manufactured gas came on September third, 1901, when the DeKalb County Gas Company turned gas into the mains for forty customers.

However there was more behind the story than that. On December 14, 1895, the City Council granted a franchise to W. L. Ellwood, A. W. Fisk, William Carter and C. F. Smith. These gentlemen did not build within the allotted time so on October 13, 1900, the franchise was granted to Clinton E. Jackson. Mr. Jackson in turn assigned his franchise to Irwin Rev who formed the DeKalb County Gas Company.

At the same time that DeKalb received gas it was available in Sycamore through a four inch high pressure line built along the DeKalb Sycamore Road.

The DeKalb County Gas Company continued in business until May 1, 1912, when it was purchased by the Illinois Northern Utilities Company. At the same time the Illinois Northern purchased utilities in other towns.

Changes were made in the DeKalb plant from time to time. The coal gas was changed to water gas and in 1941 and 1942 natural gas was introduced. This was made possible by the construction of a pipe line. This is a twenty inch main connecting with the main line at Geneseo, Illinois.

December 15, 1950, the Illinois Northern was merged with the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois. A later change made the name Northern Illinois Gas Company.

Today the company serves over 4000 customers in the DeKalb - Sycamore area.

Industry

The early industries of the new town, naturally, were connected with barbed wire and agricultural products. The first industry was a grist mill located at Seventh Street, in 1853.

In 1865 Andrew and Charles Bradt opened a glove factory which gave way to Bradt and Shipman Glove Company in 1870. Eleven years later, in 1876, the DeKalb Implement Works opened, and later it merged with the Barb City Manufacturing Company.

Also in 1876 the wire mills started and for a long time dominated the industrial life of the town. In the latter half of the 1890's kindred factories made their appearances.

Jacob Haish expanded his factories to include not only barbed wire, but also plows, small implements, gasoline engines and manure



M. D. Wells Shoe Company

spreaders. At one time he had three plants in operation.

The DeKalb Fence Company was formed in 1892, and as an off-shoot the Union Fence Company was organized later. In the end they were both taken over by the American Steel and Wire Company. Also in 1892 the Abram Ellwood Manufacturing Company built a plant on Pleasant Street, which later was taken over by the American Steel and Wire Company and is now used by the Cyclone Fence Company. The Ellwood Company went out of existence in about 1902.

On the other side of town the Leonard-Atkinson Shoe Company constructed the building now housing the DeKalb Commercial Body Company. This was in 1891, but a few years later the M. D. Wells Shoes Company purchased the business and manufactured shoes there until 1911.

In 1912 the Sycamore Wagon Company moved to DeKalb, changing its name to DeKalb

Wagon Company and occupying the shoe factory building. It specialized in making milk delivery wagons. A year later it purchased a truck factory and moved it to DeKalb. The company manufactured trucks of all kinds, including some fire trucks for surrounding cities. DeKalb's third fire truck was made in that plant.

In 1940 the company's name was changed to DeKalb Commercial Body Company and the company began to specialize in the manufacture of bodies for trucks.

The years 1905 and 1906 saw two new plants open in DeKalb, the Melville Clark Piano Company and the Creamery Package Manufacturing Company. The Melville Clark Piano Company's first instrument came off the assembly line on May 6, 1905. In 1919 the company was merged with the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company which operates it today.

The Creamery Package Manufacturing Com-



Looking West from Second Street in 1894

pany was started in 1906 and has been a steady factor in DeKalb's industrial life ever since. It manufactures commercial refrigeration units.

Other industries in the pre World War I era were the Kohler Die and Specialty Company; Vasser Swiss Underwear Company; Standard Foundry, which made furnaces, and other companies which filled a need at the time but are not in existence at present.

After 1918 DeKalb had the California Packing Corporation for canning corn and peas, the Cyclone Fence Company in 1930, for making screen wire; the Englander Company, for manufacturing springs, and the Joseph Brody and Brothers, for making ladies' coats.

In 1916 one of DeKalb's steadiest factories was started. In that year the Nehring Electrical Wire Company opened in the Haish building on Lincoln Highway. Since then it has expanded and occupies this building and one on Locust and Ninth Streets. It makes insulated wire for the electrical industry.

During the World War II period all the plants in DeKalb were engaged in war work. The Wurlitzer Company made wooden airplanes which were assembled by the Interstate Aircraft and Manufacturing Company; the DeKalb Commercial Body Company made signal Corps equipment, and the Northern Illinois Corporation went into the manufacturing of tank treads.

Following the war one of DeKalb's biggest industries — the General Electric Company — came to town. It makes fractional horsepower motors. It purchased the building erected by the Arlington Furniture Company in 1941 and occupied by Interstate during the war.

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FOR OVER
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It has been our privilege and pleasure to have a part in the growth and expansion of DeKalb's 100 years of progress.

As DeKalb's leading hardware and houseware supplier, it will be our earnest and constant endeavor to prove ourselves worthy of your continued confidence during the years to come.

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On The 100th Anniversary

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CREAMERY PACKAGE — An impressive history pointing toward continued progress in the future



- DeKalb factory erected in 1906 for the full manufacture of refrigeration machinery.
- Additions to the factory in 1923, 1938, 1955, and 1956.
- Manufacturers of —

Refrigeration machinery and related equipment

Refrigerated stainless steel bulk milk cooling tanks

Stainless steel utility tables

Work tables and wash sinks



THE CREAMERY PACKAGE MANUFACTURING COMPANY

DE KALB, ILLINOIS



Building on Northeast corner, Second Street and Lincoln Highway, in 1890's

Stores

Ever since John Goodall and Baisl Ruby opened the first stores in the settlement of Huntley's Grove, DeKalb has been a good town in which to trade. The above mentioned stores were the first in the growing community and were built in 1849. They were on opposite corners of Depot (Lincoln Highway) and First Streets. The Goodall store was on the site of the Chronicle building and Ruby's across the street.

We cannot trace the growth of the individual stores, but by 1870 there were several along the dirt Main Street. A destructive fire in the early 1870's wiped out these wooden buildings and new brick structures took their places.

In 1876 Joseph Glidden built his Glidden House on the northeast corner of Second Street, I. L. Ellwood built a stone building on the corner to the south and P. C. Wagner built his building on the northwest corner of that intersection.

To complete the picture the Eagle Hotel,

CONGRATULATIONS
On Your
ONE HUNDREDTH
ANNIVERSARY



SUNBEAM BREAD

CRYDUN PHOTOGRAPHS

SHERMAN DUNKELBERGER

Portrait

Commercial Photography

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CENTENNIAL GREETINGS

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DeKalb, Illinois

DEKALB'S
LEADING DEPARTMENT STORE
J. C. PENNEY CO.

Congratulations
BABSON FARMS Inc.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO
DEKALB, ILLINOIS
ON YOUR 100th BIRTHDAY

TRANSCON LINES

2611 S. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill.

DA 6-5100



Haish Bee Hive Building, J. C. Penny corner, before razing
in 1937

built in 1846, occupied the other corner.

From that day onward the main street was built up rapidly. Some of the firms which occupied these stores were Aaron Goldsmith, clothier, who occupied the "Bee Hive" built by Mr. Haish in 1885 on the southwest corner of Third and Lincoln Highway. Atwood and Burnside were in the building on the other corner. I. L. Ellwood's hardware store, and its successors were located where the National store is today. V. A. Glidden's grocery was in the Glidden House, Walter White's meatmarket near there, and other stores lined the street.

There have been several stores which have been known far beyond the limits of DeKalb. The Anderson Brothers store started in 1895 and sold men's clothing to people from all over Northern Illinois. They were located where Bowman's is today and later took over the building next to it. This company went out of business in 1922.

E. A. Shetter, jeweler, with his famous slogan "Talk To Shetter" blazoned on barns, became a magnet for his line. Lon Smith, who asked "Who's Your Butcher?" was well known in the outlying areas. In the early 1920's the Striglos brothers opened a deluxe restaurant known as the "Innovation" in the Commercial Trades Building while across the street was a restaurant operated by Jack Cook known as the "Aggravation."

Beside the Eagle Hotel and the Glidden House DeKalb had the Walkup, located at various places, and one on the corner of Fourth and Lincoln (site of the Kennedy Building) known variously as the Rickard House, the Clifton and the European. On May 30, 1927 Mr. M. E. Rice opened DeKalb's newest hotel — The Rice.



Haish Corner, Third and Lincoln Highway, when new in 1908

To mention the names of the merchants whose fair dealing and large stocks brought business to DeKalb would be impossible. They were the pioneers who served a trading area many miles in extent. Today the successors of these merchants are upholding the reputations won by hard work and good merchandise.

One feature which brought DeKalb fame was the monthly Horse Sale. This was instituted in June 1887. With the large numbers of horses in the stables of W. L. Ellwood, who imported Belgian Percherons, the interest was high. Farmers would bring horses to sell and come to buy. Itinerant horse traders always made a point to be in DeKalb on the last Friday of each month. It was a DeKalb special.

These sales continued until the demand for horses ceased, the last one being held about 1919.

Farm Bureau

Being an agricultural area it was not hard to interest the people in the farmer's problems. Therefore, when Henry Parke, of Genoa, suggested an organization to teach better farming he found ready listeners.

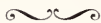
Mr. Parke was the son of a farmer who believed and practiced better breeding and crop rotation. He was active in the Farmer's Institutes which were teaching these things. Early in 1912 he interested such men as Thomas Dillon of Genoa and S. E. Bradt of DeKalb, both bankers, in the idea. They, with others, formed the DeKalb County Soil Improvement Association with headquarters in the North School building in DeKalb.

On June 1, 1912 a large step forward was taken when they employed William G. Eckhardt, of the University of Illinois, as a farm advisor.

DeKalb County was the first in the nation to take such a step. The Illinois legislature in

(Continued on Page 46)

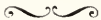
SOMETHING TO LIVE UP TO!



The reputation of this bank for faithful service, through the many past years, has been a real responsibility.



The people you know and the people who know you and who desire to serve you, hope to continue this faithful service through the many years to come.



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YOUR FRIENDLY BANK

CORNER OF FOURTH STREET AND LINCOLN HIGHWAY

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION



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*A School of Dignity and Distinction Devoted to
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152½ E. Lincoln Hwy. Phone 6-3211 DeKalb, Ill.

1914 and 1917 began a program of help and the movement was underway.

In 1922 there was celebrated in DeKalb the Tenth Anniversary of the movement. This took the form of a parade of floats from all of the counties of Illinois and a pageant on the College campus.

DeKalb Agricultural Association, Inc.

This local organization has done more than any other to acquaint the general public of the United States with the name "DeKalb." DeKalb's winged ear silhouette is known along roads in nearly every state in the union. The production of hybrid corn, hybrid chicks and hybrid sorghum has literally made DeKalb "The Home of the Hybrid" for the country's farming interests.

This organization is an outgrowth of one of America's first farm bureaus which hired one of the two first farm advisers in Illinois to begin work on June 1, 1912. Early work of this group was to promote the purchase of lime and legume seed for farmers. The cash volume of this business soon became so great that a separate organization was necessary to handle it. This organization was called the DeKalb County Agricultural Association, with the "County" later being dropped. This organization early became interested in seed corn improvement — first with open pollinated strains and later with the hybrids. The first DeKalb Hybrid corn sales were made in 1934. Rapid expansion of production facilities and the sales force moved DeKalb to the top in seed corn sales in 1940 and this position has been held ever since.

In 1945, work was started on a chicken breeding project which led to the sale of DeKalb Chix, beginning about 1948. DeKalb pioneered in the development of the white egg, light weight, hybrid type bird which is now so popular. DeKalb operates through an Associate Hatchery set-up involving around 300 hatcheries in 40 states.

The last of the DeKalb Hybrids in hybrid grain sorghum — a crop adapted primarily to the dry southwestern states. DeKalb's production at Lubbock, Texas is in the center of a large irrigated area in western Texas and in the Panhandle where sorghum production is highly concentrated with high yields. DeKalb is the first organization with any large amount of hybrid sorghum seed available.

The DeKalb Agricultural Association is incorporated and its stockholders and top officials are nearly all DeKalb County men. Although selling DeKalb products now in almost every state in the union, the center of activities is at 310 North Fifth Street in DeKalb.

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"100th ANNIVERSARY"
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DE KALB COUNTY FARM BUREAU BUILDING

DeKalb County the home of the first Farm Bureau
Organized in 1912 to promote a more profitable and
more permanent system of agriculture in DeKalb County.

— 3386 Members June 1, 1956 —

I.A.A. INSURANCE SERVICE

I.A.A. Insurance Service has been happy to serve the Farm Bureau members in DeKalb County by giving coverage in Country Life, and Country Mutual Casualty, and Country Mutual Fire Companies.

A COMPLETE FROZEN FOOD PROCESSING SERVICE

DE KALB COUNTY LOCKER SERVICE, INC.

We pick up your animal for slaughter, completely processing the meat for your freezer or locker.

Six conveniently located lockers and processing plants in DeKalb County.

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GENOA Phone 11
OFFICE DeKalb 6-6361

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SOMONAUK Phone 2721
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4% FEDERAL LAND BANK LOANS

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NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION

Farm Bureau Building

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COMPLIMENTS OF

FOX VALLEY PRODUCTION CREDIT ASS'N

Balancing the budget is a difficult problem which every farmer is facing during this period of continued high operating costs and lower net income. If you believe you can use borrowed money to advantage at this time, come in and see us.

FOX VALLEY PRODUCTION CREDIT ASS'N

Farm Bureau Building

Phone 6-6361

DeKalb, Illinois

DeKalb Bands

The DeKalb Band is older than the city. It celebrated its centennial two years ago in 1954.

Jackson Hiland probably was the organizer of the DeKalb Silver Cornet Band, which was the first of its kind west of Chicago.

It is also said that a small group of people from DeKalb followed the gold rush to the West and played on the stage of the then village of Denver, Colorado.

During the Civil War, musicians of course were in service, but afterwards, when they came back to DeKalb, they again formed a band under the leadership of David McCosh and his brother, Daniel, and they made a real live organization of this DeKalb band.

After McCosh, there came unto the scene such band leaders as William Cheney (grandfather of the present bandleader, Dee Palmer), Carl Quist, Cal Dart, B. Z. Oker, Burte Ruby and G. D. Weber.

Then in 1903 there stepped into the lime-light, C. F. Toenniges, who was the leader of the band for some twenty years.

Also in 1903 the Band accepted an invitation to become the Band of the Third Regiment of the Illinois National Guard, which post they held until 1917. This assignment meant a two-week camping period on alternating years at Springfield, Aurora, Elgin and Dixon.

In 1916, when the Mexican trouble was at its height, the Government sent the National Guard of the various states into the field to protect the Mexican border.

Along with these groups went the Third Regiment of the Illinois National Guard with the Band from DeKalb and Company A from DeKalb. The boys from DeKalb stayed on the border from June 1916 until February 1917, and they returned home February 17 to a riotous welcome from the folks they left behind.

Back home the people still had a band. They were called variously "The Kids Band" or the Third Regiment Juniors, but whatever they were called they were good.

Then because of the uncertainty of the times in 1917 the Third Regiment Band was shifted from DeKalb to Mount Morris.

It was civic minded citizens who were always interested in the band and took over the financial and managerial functions which go along with a band. For several years, civic minded men worked hard to raise money for uniforms, instruments, and music and to manage the affairs of this worthwhile institution.

It was in 1926 that Senator Harry G. Wright of DeKalb pushed through the Legislature of

(Continued on Page 52)



PALMER MUSIC HOUSE

EVERYTHING MUSICAL SINCE 1890

PIANOS — ORGANS BAND INSTRUMENTS

Instruction On ALL Instruments

MAGNAVOX and RCA HI-FI PHONOGRAPHS
FENDER GUITARS

Three generations of musical experience has gone
into the selection of our fine lines
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WIRTZ and WIRTZ

DeKalb County Home Furnishers

"YESTERDAY — TODAY — TOMORROW"

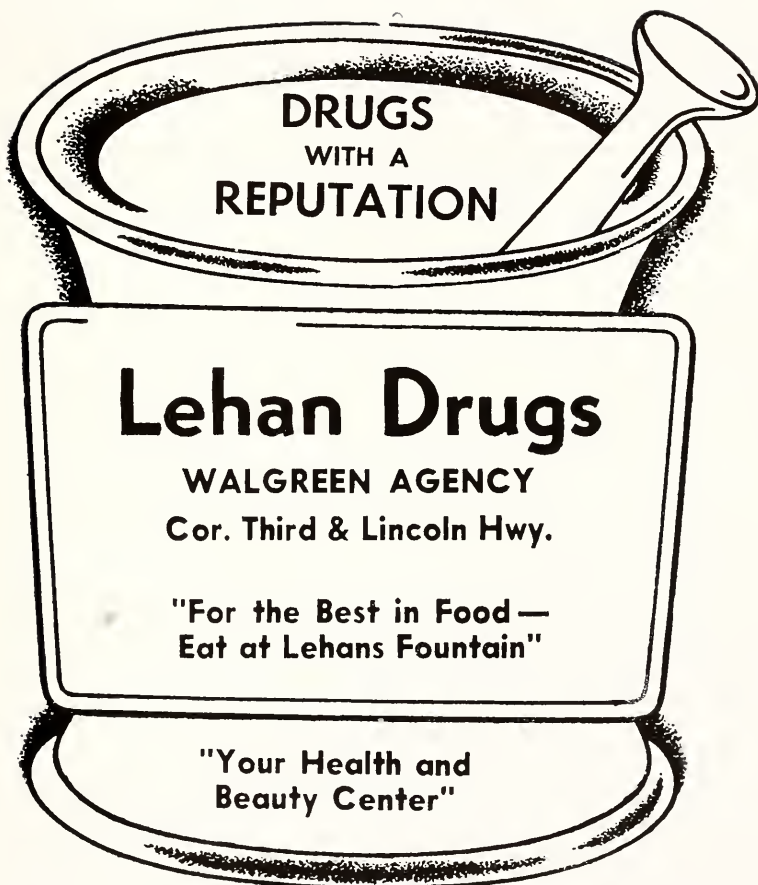
A store, like a city, should expect to grow older —
and plan to keep young

C. B. R.

COMMON CARRIER SERVICE TO ALL POINTS

SERVING DE KALB AND
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WITH A
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**"For the Best in Food —
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C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
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C I T Y O F D E K A L B

NEWQUIST FOUNDRY COMPANY
H. P. NEWQUIST, *President*

GRAY IRON CASTINGS
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DE KALB, ILLINOIS

Illinois a bill permitting cities to levy a 2-mill tax for band support. The ink was hardly dry on the Governor's signature before DeKalb went to work. The result was that in 1926 DeKalb became the first city to have a municipal band supported by a municipal tax.

After becoming a municipal organization, the DeKalb band really went places. They went to the Chicago Music Land Festival three years in a row and have taken high honors everywhere that they have gone.

The present organization, known as the DeKalb Municipal Band, has attracted attention from all over the State of Illinois with its sacred concerts, its Music Festivals, and its wonderful and accurate playing.

Public Library

One of the boasts of the city of DeKalb is its fine public library, which came into being on July 1, 1893, by an ordinance of the City Council. Mrs. E. B. McMurray was the first librarian.

At first the library was located on the second floor of the City Hall. Later it was moved

to the second floor of the Chronicle Building and remained there until February 15, 1931, when it moved into a handsome new building, the gift of Mr. Jacob Haish.

During the depression years it was hard to find money with which to purchase new books, and a civic committee was formed to ask for donations of books or funds. Since that time there have been several bequests and donations, which have enabled the library to keep pace with the latest and best books. Chief among the bequests is the Verna Newsham Memorial Fund for the purchase of non-fiction books. In recent years the practice of giving books as memorials has grown, and many public spirited citizens now present to the library current books which they have read and wish others to have the chance to read.

An auxiliary organization known as Friends of the Library has aided in making the library a cultural center of DeKalb through the presentation of talks, art displays, and exhibits of current interest. In addition, the Library Whist Club, an organization of interested women, has for some sixty years lent its support to the library.

Theaters

The churches and schools were probably the first places people of DeKalb went to for entertainment. The theater received an early boost by the first editor of the DeKalb Chronicle, Clinton Rosette.

Editor Rosette was the booster for a Dollar Lecture Course which included lectures, plays and music in its repertoire. After the Chronicle building was completed these entertainments were held there. In fact, for a long time the second floor of this building was the focal point for the culture of the town.

When Jacob Haish built his building on the northwest corner of Third and Lincoln Highway in 1876 the second floor was a theater and the building was called the "Opera House Block." This building burned in 1906, but was speedily rebuilt and included a theater constructed on the north end of the building and called the "Haish Auditorium."

In this theater played all manner of road shows and stock companies and many a famous actor appeared here. As in all theaters of this type there was a "peanut gallery" and the oc-

cupants cheered the hero and hissed the villain with great fervor. In the late 1930's the structure was torn down to make way for the present Drs. Smith Building.

The Bijou, Star, and Princess Theaters came along showing motion pictures and vaudeville. The Bijou, for vaudeville only, was located in a building just west of the First National Bank which was incorporated into the bank building in one of the remodelings of that structure. The date given for the start of the Bijou is 1906.

The Star came into being in 1907 as a motion picture theater, and it was located next to the DeKalb Trust and Savings Bank and finally was absorbed in the remodeling of that building.

The Princess Theater, started in 1913, was located in the building now occupied by Sohn's Clothing Store, and it will be remembered for the great pictures shown there. Mr. Glenn W. Reynolds was the owner and manager and Mrs. Reynolds played the piano accompaniments for the pictures.

The Armory Theater on Locust Street, now the Masonic Temple, was built in as an Armory

Best Wishes

to DEKALB on your
★ CENTENNIAL ★



HIGHWAY MOTOR SERVICE

222 18th AVENUE

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

ROCKFORD 5-0521

DE KALB 6-3232

for the Company A of the Illinois National Guard, but it also provided space for vaudeville, home talent plays, expositions and other events. In the basement was a roller skating rink and dance floor.

DeKalb's theaters became modern when the DeKalb Theater was built in 1923 on Lincoln Highway, in the Montgomery Ward Store building. This was an up-to-date motion picture house, with a large pipe organ, but the coming of sound pictures made a change necessary and the company built the Egyptian in 1929.

The same year, 1929, the Fargo Theater was built, but for a time during that year DeKalb theatergoers had to go elsewhere while these two theaters were under construction.

In 1949 the new DeKalb, the latest in theaters, was opened on North Third Street.

Then the DeVal Drive-In-Theater on Sycamore Road came in 1948.

The Stage Coach Players

The Stage Coach Players is a non-profit organization with membership open to all De-

Kalb County people who wish to share in the responsibilities and pleasures of producing amateur plays and in the encouragement of theater arts in the community.

Organized in 1947 under the leadership of Ann Smith Gray, the group had several successful seasons in its temporary home, a barn lent by John Ellwood. Mrs. E. P. Ellwood's stage coach, which was used as a box office, was the source of the name of the group.

When it became necessary to find a permanent building, a group of interested citizens formed the Stage Coach Theater Corporation. Through the sale of non-interest bearing stock enough money was acquired to purchase land and begin building the present theater, located opposite the County Home halfway between Sycamore and DeKalb on Route 23. From the proceeds of the plays and by means of volunteer labor, the building was completed for the 1953 summer season.

Productions of the Stage Coach Players have become widely known not only for the fine quality of amateur acting but for the effective staging, sets, and costumes. Rotation of directors and new combinations of talent in all phases of play production for each play

(Continued on Page 57)

FIVE community PARKS ...help make DeKalb beautiful

- HOPKINS PARK . . . large and spacious — scene of great activity
- ANNIES WOODS . . . quiet, secluded and private
- DE KALB RECREATION FIELD . . . baseball's haven
- HUNTLEY PARK . . . your neighborhood park
- SHIPMAN PARK . . . children's playground

Continuous 4-Season Recreational Activity

DeKalb has a park for almost every need — Barbecue Pits, Open-Air Stoves, Picnic Benches and Tables — Baseball Diamonds, Playground Equipment — Scenic Walk-ways.

Hopkins Park offers a band shell and seating capacity for 1,200; a large shelter house; one of Northern Illinois' finest swimming pools with a modern bath house, and a record attendance of over 53,000 admittances last summer.

DEKALB PARK DISTRICT

ESTABLISHED IN 1935

... THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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John G. Boyle, Legal Advisor
Jerry Farmer, Pool Manager
George Derlinger, Athletic Director

The board of commissioners are elected by public ballot and serve for six-year terms.

DeKalb - Illinois

Have you ever been fortunate enough to ride a ferry boat out to the Statue of Liberty, stand among a group of tourists from foreign countries, have them look at the wonderful New York Skyline, look up at the Statue of Liberty, and turn and ask you — "Do these Americans realize what a wonderful country they have?". If you have ever had that experience, then you know the thrill that comes up from the deepest part of your body when you answer, "I am an American!". Have you ever stood atop of Mount Wilson in California, looked up at the first seven television stations built in North America and looked out over the city of Los Angeles spread before you and heard the same question from a group of engineers from all over the world when they say, "What a Country! Do these people realize how great it really is?". Then the great feeling comes again when you say, "I am an American!". Have you ever had the pleasure of riding in an observation car on one of our great western railroads and sat among a group of people from other countries travelling across our Country — when they pass over the Mississippi River and the great prairie state of Illinois and the wonderful miles of waving corn, the great fields of golden grain and green alfalfa, then have one of them turn to you and say, "My, what a Country!". Again comes the great feeling when you are able to say, "I am an American!".

I recently was on such a train and when it pulled into the terminal in Chicago, there was a great hustle and bustle among all of us to get off, but as we alighted on the train platform, a group of college boys were returning to their university at Urbana and suddenly we were all struck silent as they started to sing—

"Not without thy wonderous story
Can be told thy nation's glory,
Illinois, my Illinois."

Then indeed did I have a feeling that is hard to describe when I could turn to this group of newly met friends and say, "I was born in Illinois". The discussion then turned to what made Illinois such a great state and one of which we were so proud. This led up to the fact that it consisted of thousands of wonderful little towns from which have come the leaders of practically every line of endeavor and the most natural thing, of course, was to say that I came from DeKalb, Illinois — the birthplace of barbed wire that led to the great development of the west, and that from this great little city, just hundreds throughout the state, had come great leaders in education, great steel men, men who had developed great copper manufacturing plants, pianos, reapers, hybrid seed corn, and that today there were still living in DeKalb many descendants of the men who played such a great part in making our city great — that we are proud of it, and rightfully so; and now it is coming to the great period of its existence — Its One Hundredth Anniversary!

To tell that story and tell it right and tell it in a manner in which we will be rightfully proud is going to take the cooperation and backing of every man, woman and child in our community and each of us should do the part that we are capable of doing. You will be given an opportunity to play a part in letting everybody know what you think of the town that you call home.

Respectfully submitted,

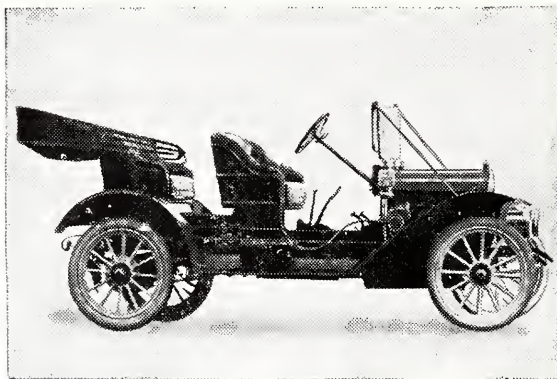


T. E. Courtney, President
NORTHERN ILLINOIS CORPORATION

AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

The roll of the automobile dealer is of ever increasing importance in DeKalb. Dealers through their products and services stand ready to serve the transportation needs of the community. In an industry whose yearly progress is so easily measured by new models and performance standards, the automobile dealer meets a daily challenge to progress.

DeKalb dealers today offer their customers the latest in automotive products and service techniques. The challenge of the past has been met as is evidenced by the modern facilities available to the motorist in DeKalb. DeKalb dealers look forward with confidence and pride in their ability to serve the needs of automotive transportation in the future.



MEMBERS

BALLAS FORD SALES
BREEZY'S GARAGE
CLARK MOTOR SALES
DE KALB MOTOR SALES
DE KALB BUICK GARAGE
FORREST ANDREWS CO.
FOURTH STREET MOTOR SALES, INC.

FREITAG PONTIAC
GIBSON MOTOR SALES
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TOBY'S AUTO SALES

DE KALB AUTOMOTIVE TRADE ASSOCIATION

achieve a distinctive variety and freshness.

In addition to giving adult plays each summer, the Stage Coach Players have an active interest in other types of theatrical production. Whenever suitable personnel is available, plays for children are produced. Another departure from the usual type of summer theater has been the production of two Gilbert and Sullivan operettas in order to provide vehicles for DeKalb County's singers and instrumentalists. Another effort of the Players has been to support and encourage dramatics in the schools. Proceeds from one musical production were given to purchase and install lighting equipment for the stage of the DeKalb Junior High School. The Players have also sponsored performances of the DeKalb High School contest plays so that the public could share in the enjoyment of these student productions.

The value of the Stage Coach Theater to DeKalb County lies not only in the presentation of live theater to audiences but in the rich experience of a cross section of DeKalb young people and adults working together. All ages, all occupations, all varieties of people can share in this artistic, educational, and recreational

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group. There is no talent so slight that it cannot be used in some of the aspects of theater work.

The Tenth Anniversary Season of the Stage Coach Players, in keeping with the centennial theme of DeKalb, will open with an old time Melodrama, **DIRTY WORK AT THE CROSSROADS**, directed by Victor Griffin. It will run June 21 to June 24. Following it at two-week intervals will be **SABRINA FAIR** directed by Paul Crawford, **THE SHOP AT SLY CORNER**, directed by Dale Jeffries, and **DIAL M FOR MURDER**, directed by Rex Murray.

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Lincoln Highway looking West from Seventh Street about 1912

Financial Institutions

Only three years after the village of DeKalb came into being a bank was established. In 1859 E. T. Hunt and John Hamilton formed a banking Company. Although the exact title of this bank is not known, it is certain that it was located on the area that is now 236 East Lincoln Highway.

Later Dr. Rufus Hopkins purchased Mr. Hamilton's interest and E. P. Young purchased Mr. Hunt's, and the company was known as Rufus Hopkins and Company. Somewhere in the succession this company was known as Hopkins, Hunt and Company, for there is a check in existence bearing that name.

After a series of changes in ownership, the DeKalb National Bank was formed in 1882 with H. P. Taylor as president, Jacob Haish, vice president and T. A. Luney, cashier. In 1902 it became the First National Bank of DeKalb, and in 1934 the name was changed to First National Bank in DeKalb.

Jacob Haish organized his private bank, the Barb City Bank, in 1884, located on the south-

west corner of Third and Lincoln until 1907 when it was moved to the northwest corner of that intersection. In 1910 it was chartered by the state as the Jacob Haish State Bank. This bank was in existence until 1922 when it was purchased by the First National Bank.

Another banking institution was organized in 1902 as the Commercial Trust and Savings Bank, and it built the building which is now known as the Commercial Trades Building. In 1912 this company was purchased by the stockholders of the First National and moved to their building and renamed the First Trust and Savings Bank. It was liquidated in 1933.

The bank which has the distinction of being the oldest chartered bank without change of name in town is the DeKalb Trust and Savings Bank. Opening for business on November 3, 1909, it has been in the same location for all 47 years.

It was located in the building at 363 East Lincoln Highway known as the "Ronan Building." In 1923 the bank purchased the build-

ing, remodeled it, and since then has expanded its quarters several times. In the same year the bank was given trust powers by the auditor of the public accounts.

Mr. M. Hanrahan was elected a director in 1909 and served 43 years until his death in 1953.

On December 28, 1923, the Northern Illinois Corporation was formed with H. G. Wright, president; H. H. Cornforth, Vice President, and T. E. Courtney, Secretary-Treasurer. The capital was \$30,000, and it was increased to \$100,000 in 1924, and the name was changed to Northern Illinois Corporation in 1929. A further change in name was made in 1942 when the present one was adopted. The company received its first small loan license in 1931. In 1939 the Northern Illinois Insurance Agency was organized, and in 1955 the Northern Illinois Credit Life Insurance Company was put into service as a subsidiary. Later the Friendly Finance Corporation, operating in Wisconsin was purchased. During World War II a manufacturing division was set up to make treads for tanks.

It was W. H. Bush, son-in-law of J. F. Glidden, who pushed the plan for a Building and Loan Association. This was in May 1885, and the group around him immediately applied for

a license and on June 9, 1885, the first officers of the association were elected and the bylaws adopted.

Since then there has been a steady growth from 19 share holders to 2967 as of today. Seven men, beginning with P. G. Young in 1885 and extending to A. W. Jackson in 1956, have served as president. Mr. C. E. Bradt served as secretary from 1885 to 1933. The service of all these men have given the Association a stability that is well earned.

Future plans call for the erection of a building of its own on the corner of Third and Locust Streets.

DeKalb Hospitals

The first DeKalb Hospital was founded in May 1906, by Dr. Herbert B. Nevins. Originally Dr. and Mrs. Nevins operated the institution as a cancer hospital, but the demand grew for a more general type of institution.

In 1909, Dr. Frederick Millar of Sycamore, a Universalist minister, took over the management and established it as a hospital and home for the aged, calling it the DeKalb Private Hospital and Old Peoples' Home.

Joseph F. Glidden, one of the leading fig-

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DeKalb Public Hospital, South First Street, 1910

ures in DeKalb history, died in 1906 and left \$20,000 to build the Glidden Memorial Hospital. This amount was insufficient to construct a building of the size needed, and no provision was made for maintaining the institution.

September 11, 1912, the private hospital and old folks' home was deeded to A. G. Kennedy, who mortgaged the property to pay its indebtedness, and then presented the property with the mortgage to the city.

In 1913, Mrs. Clinton Rosette left an estate valued at \$50,000 as an endowment for a city hospital, and in 1916 at a special election, the citizens voted a \$35,000 bond issue to be used with the Glidden fund to build a hospital.

In order to use the Rosette endowment fund, it was proposed to build the Glidden Memorial Hospital and lease it to the city to be used as the public hospital. Through the aid of additional bond issues and bequests from I. L. Ellwood's estate, the hospital was built and opened in October, 1922. It contained 40 beds and nine bassinets.

In October, 1914, the Hospital Benefit Club had been organized to give volunteer aid to the hospital. The group sewed for the hospital, making all the sheets, pillow cases, surgical gowns, linens, and layettes used. When the new hospital was built, it and other civic organizations, private individuals, druggists and doctors helped to equip it.

In 1952, vast improvements were completed. The porches at the north and south were enclosed to become rooms. New X-ray equipment was installed and the laboratory was moved from the basement to the fourth floor. The kitchen was given a new floor, stoves, and steam tables, and the diet kitchens on each floor have added facilities.

The day before the opening of the Glidden Memorial Hospital, another magnificent insti-

tution, St. Mary's Hospital, was opened in DeKalb. This hospital has 45 beds and eight bassinets and is fully equipped and modern in all details. DeKalb is indebted to Rev. J. A. Solon and the parish of St. Mary's Catholic Church for this institution.

The only other hospital located in DeKalb was the O. M. Blood institution on North First Street, which started in 1907 and ended its career in 1909.

Newspapers

The newspapers of DeKalb appeared early. The first was the Western World and DeKalb Review in 1858 with Samuel Adams as editor. Two years later the DeKalb Leader was established with Eli B. Gilbert, as editor.

The DeKalb Times succeeded the Leader in the early sixties. G. D. R. Boyd was the editor and he edited newspapers in DeKalb and Sycamore for several years. In 1867 A. K. Stiles founded the DeKalb County News for the express purpose of defeating the "Half Shire" bill which was hot political news at the time. Editor Stiles was succeeded by Lucien Post who held the position until the paper was taken over by the Chronicle in 1884.

The present DeKalb Daily Chronicle was established on March 8, 1879 with Clinton Rosette the editor and J. F. Glidden the publisher. This too was a political venture as it was the purpose to sponsor the cause of the Democratic Party. This is seen in the slogan which was carried in every issue "Democratic in all things and under all circumstances."

It was a weekly paper for some time becoming daily in the 1890's as it was daily on January 1, 1897. On September 3, 1907 the name was changed to The DeKalb Evening Chronicle and remained such until January 15, 1909.

On this date Mr. E. J. Raymond and Frank Greenaway purchased the paper from the J. F. Glidden Publishing Company and it has remained in those families ever since.

Due to the activities of W. L. Ellwood in the field of horse breeding the Chronicle published a breeder's magazine called the American Breeder starting January 1887 and soon copies were being sent to all parts of the world.

The Chronicle had competition as there was early established a rival called the DeKalb Review. This was in 1888 and E. A. Grey was the editor. The rivalry between the two was very strong and the two never let an opportunity pass to revile the other.

About 1887 Herbert Fay and D. W. Tyrrell took over the editorship and publishing of the

(Continued on Page 63)

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Sycamore Road looking North from Ninth Street - 1908

Review with Mr. Fay becoming the sole owner later. The paper was a weekly and had two editions, one for DeKalb and the other for Malta. The latter was called the "Malta Mail." This suspended publication when Mr. Fay left for Springfield, Illinois to become custodian of the Lincoln Tomb.

The DeKalb Advertiser was published by Bailey Rosette a Brother of Clinton Rosette, editor of the Chronicle. This too was a weekly and was started March 4, 1889 and continued until May 1, 1914 when it was absorbed by the Chronicle.

The DeKalb Daily Independent was established February 15, 1915 by Robert Newcomer and L. G. Tyrrell and continued until July 1935 when it too was taken over by the Chronicle.

Churches

The first church to be organized in the new settlement was the Baptist. On October 15, 1844, a group formed the Union Grove Baptist Church. This organization met in a schoolhouse located near the present County Home.

With the influx of settlers came several of

this denomination and they built a frame church on the present site in 1855, the labor for which was dedicated by the members. At the same time the name was changed to the First Baptist Church of DeKalb.

In 1885 this frame building was replaced by a brick edifice which was enlarged and remodeled in 1902 and 1920. At the latter time a pipe organ, the gift of Jacob Haish, was installed.

The Methodists and the Congregationalists were the next to begin. In 1854 the people of the Methodist faith began to meet at the home of Basil Ruby with Circuit Rider William Browne as a spiritual leader. On June 28, 1855, the first trustees were elected.

As the congregation grew they began to meet in the school house on the corner of Second and Grove Streets. After meeting there for a year or two they built a church on the northeast corner of Fourth and Grove. In this building the Sunday School was organized, the women became active and music was introduced into the services.

By 1879 the building had become too small and a new one was erected on the southeast

(Continued on Page 65)

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PHYL-LOUISE BEAUTY SHOP, Sycamore
SILVER PRINCESS BEAUTY SHOP, DeKalb
SWIRL SHOPPE, DeKalb
*WANDA LEE BEAUTY SHOP, Lee

*Member of DeKalb Unit 18 of N.H.C.A.

corner of Fourth and Locust Streets. This building was dedicated March 8, 1880, free from debt. However, an expanding congregation in an expanding town caused the members to feel the need for a larger building and on September 29, 1909, the present church was dedicated.

Need for more room has made another building project necessary and plans are underway for an educational building located to the north of the church. At the same time a building on Normal Road has been purchased as a Wesley Foundation center for work among the college students.

The Congregationalists organized on December 2, 1854, in the school on Second Street with eight charter members. They soon purchased this school house for \$600.00 and used it as a church for 34 years. The stone church building on this lot was built in 1888 and a parsonage was built to the south of the church in 1892.

With them too, expansion was necessary and plans were started for a new church to care for the needs of the people. Also, the location next to the railroad was not the best. On July

4, 1954, a new church building was dedicated on North First Street. Included in this plan was that necessary adjunct to modern living — a large parking lot.

The members of this church have been extremely generous in their support of the program. The stone church was made possible by the generosity of I. L. Ellwood and J. F. Glidden and the latest by the J. A. Spickerman family. Although these people were generous the congregation as a whole helped to the best of their ability.

When the Swedish people came to this area in 1850 they had to look elsewhere for spiritual leadership. However, on Christmas Day 1858, they organized what is now the First Lutheran Church. For a time they were affiliated with the church in Geneva, but in October 1, 1865, they dedicated their own church building.

This was located on the corner of Sixth and Pine Streets and served these people until 1889 when a large brick building was built on the same site. This building was also replaced when on June 4, 1916, the present church was dedicated.

A parsonage was built in 1923 adjacent to the church and in 1955 they purchased the Jacob Haish home for use in an expanding program.

The people of the Catholic faith worshipped in a grove of trees as early as 1850 with Rev. Muller as the leader. The first resident priest was Rev. John Murray who was appointed in 1861 to organize the parish and build the first church.

This church was a frame building on the corner of Fourth and Pine Streets, the present location. In 1894, under the leadership of Father O'Connor the work of erecting the present structure was started.

The frame building was moved to the back of the lot and the present building was built in its place. On October 9, 1901 the building was dedicated by Father J. A. Solon, who served the church for many years.

More recently a fine sisters home has been erected across from the church.

In April 1876, Rev. William Toll established St. Paul's Episcopal Church on South Second Street. A frame building was erected in 1877, later to be moved to the rear of the lot, and a new brick church built in 1917. The old building is used as a guild hall. In 1953 a student center was established at 328 Augusta Avenue to serve the Students at Northern. This was

the first of such centers to be established.

Space limitations prevent a detailed description of the other fine churches in DeKalb. The following sketches will give the highlights of their history.

The Advents organized in 1861 and met in the building east of the South School. After being inactive for some years this building was moved to Seventh and State Streets in 1898 where the congregation worships today.

Fifteen charter members formed the Swedish Evangelical Mission Church in 1882. Their building was located on the corner of Seventh and Prospect Streets. At one time they divided; one segment, known as the Swedish Congregational Church, remaining in the old building, the other erected a new building on Seventh and Fisk Avenues. Later they reunited under the name of the Mission Covenant Church at the latter address.

The Finnish people of DeKalb early banded together for worship. In 1895 they began to meet in the Finnish Temperance Hall and later built a church of their own at State and Market Streets. In 1955 on the 60th Anniversary of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church they voted to build a new church to care for the growing needs of the congregation.

In 1898 two church groups were founded,

(Continued on Page 68)

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Faith in DeKalb and a desire to help themselves, their friends and neighbors become Home Owners and save money led to the founding of this Association.

On Saturday, May 23, 1885 nineteen local citizens met in the sample room of the Glidden House, now Hotel DeKalb, for the purpose of discussing the organization of a building and loan association for DeKalb. Those men, who laid firm foundations, were — W. H. Bush, D. D. Brown, A. W. Sprague, C. G. Bodman, P. C. Young, Wm. E. Holliday, O. Carter, E. C. Lott, W. L. Pond, J. D. Lott, A. W. Fisk, S. A. Tyler Sr., E. O. Wood, M. A. L. Olsen, S. E. Bradt, J. A. McDole, James Leishman, John Reed and T. A. Luney. At that meeting the application for license was signed and application was made to the Secretary of State for a charter.

Over the years since that date a successful and uninterrupted service has contributed increasingly to the prosperous development of the area. Today hundreds own their homes Debt Free and hundreds of others are presently being helped toward their goal of a Debt Free Home.

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the Salvation Army and the Immanuel Lutheran Church. The Salvation Army held numerous open air meetings and had quarters in various buildings until they secured their own building a short time ago.

The Immanuel Lutheran Church after a period of trials became firmly established in 1926 when they dedicated their building on Fifth and Fisk Streets. Their pastor, Rev. Paul Schauer, has served them for 23 years.

Through the efforts of Dr. Charles Carter the Cortland Chapel of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints was moved to DeKalb in 1905. In 1915 they purchased the building they now occupy at Seventh and Prospect Streets and have an active congregation. Russell Huntley, founder of DeKalb, was baptised by Elder Mark Forschutt of this faith in 1863. Dr. Carter and John L. Cooper, a DeKalb merchant, served this church for several years.

The year 1907 saw the establishment of the Christian Science Church in the home of Mr. Buckland. Later, in 1909, the present sanctuary was built on the same site.

After using various halls and buildings for a meeting place the Trinity Lutheran Church people built their own church in 1941. The inception of this church was in 1917 when Rev. C. A. Paulson came to town every third Sunday for Services. The formal organization came in 1919 and the congregation has grown until it ranks with the leaders in the town.

Of the smaller and newer churches we have in DeKalb the Four Square Church on South First Street; the Grove Street Baptist Church at Ninth and Grove and the Church of God on Lewis Street. Other groups holding religious services are: Church of the Nazarene, the Church of Christ, and the Jehovah's Witnesses.

The last church to be organized is the Baptist Chapel, a branch of the Southern Baptist Church now meeting in the Masonic Temple, but looking for a building location. This organization took place April 21, 1956.

Thus the first and the last churches to be established in DeKalb are of the Baptist denomination.

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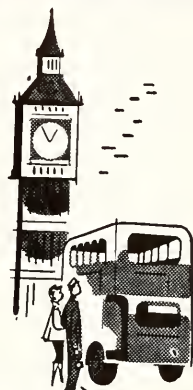
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Post Office Is Established

The establishment of the Post Office in DeKalb community came shortly after the settlement of DeKalb became more or less permanent. It was February 8, 1849 that the Post Office of DeKalb Center was established with Russell Huntley as the first postmaster. The Post Office itself was located in Russell Huntley's Eagle Hotel. The name continued to be DeKalb Center until May 24, 1883 when it became simply DeKalb. For the record, Aaron S. Jackson was the first Postmaster in the new office of DeKalb. Since Russell Huntley, and including Huntley, there have been twenty-two postmasters of DeKalb Center or DeKalb, two of whom have been women.

Some Firsts

The first store to be established on what is now the site of DeKalb was established by John Goodell, and this was located on the site of what is now The Chronicle Building. Probably the first house, or dwelling place, to be established in DeKalb was that of Basil Ruby which was located on what is now South First Street about where Montgomery Ward's Farm Store is at the present day.

In 1853, DeKalb had a store, blacksmith shop, a few residences and the Eagle Hotel, and there were twenty-nine people in the town.

It was the coming of the railroad which gave DeKalb the boom which was needed for it to grow. It was the coming of the railroad which influenced Russell Huntley to have the town surveyed, the streets laid out and the lots and the blocks marked off. This was done in 1853, the plot being filed with the Recorder of Deeds in Sycamore December 17, 1873.

It was August 12, 1873 that this much talked of railroad finally reached DeKalb and was ready for service. One can imagine the feelings of the store-keepers and the farmers when the little engine with probably one or two cars came to a puffing stop at the new station which was located on Third Street back of what is now the J. C. Penny Company store on Lincoln Highway today. It was this railroad which provided the easy means of transportation to Chicago that provided DeKalb with the impetuous that was needed for it to grow. That the coming of the railroad was a boon to the town is shown in the population figures which show that in 1855 the settlement had a population of 577 people while in 1860 the figure had grown to 1,900.

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Ellwood Home in 1896



Main Street 1908

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